

Ma'hala

Three more no-confidence motions over budget cuts

LIAT COLLINS

LABOR. Meretz and the Democratic Arab Party have filed no-confidence motions over the government's proposed budget cuts. Hadash filed a similar motion on Sunday.

"[Binyamin] Netanyahu's government has betrayed the trust placed in it by imposing cruel economic edicts," Meretz leader Yossi Sarid said.

The coalition faction heads issued a statement saying: "The coalition supported the government in its plan to cut the national budget as a vital necessity as a result of the fiscal deviations of the previous government. The coalition will hold meetings with the finance minister concerning the program's details and implementation."

Labor dedicated its faction meeting to the issue. "The government has declared war on the weak. These miserable decisions were taken in a panic and without first learning the subject," faction chairman Ra'anan Cohen said.

He particularly condemned the planned repeal of the Demobilized Soldiers Law, which he noted had been supported by many members of the current government, including Finance Minister Dan Meridor, Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav, and Minister of National Infrastructure Ariel Sharon.

Like many Labor MKs, he said if the government had to order cuts, it should have started with grants to employers, which total more than NIS 8 billion a year.

Yossi Beilin suggested raising child benefits, but making them taxable; postponing by at least one year any wage hikes for MKs, and abolishing religious councils.

"There would be a huge saving in this, and religious people need the religious councils for their own politics, not for religious services," Beilin said.

Avraham Shohat said the cabinet meeting at which the decisions were made "combined the theater of the absurd with puppet theater." He said the ministers could not have known what they were agreeing to, as the three-hour meeting did not give them long enough to study the report.

Shohat expressed surprise that ministers from Yisrael Ba'alya had agreed to the program. He also said the Labor government had left behind a healthier economy than the one it had inherited from the Likud in 1992.

Party secretary-general Nissim Zvili said the policy could lead to a recession. Moshe Shahal said the new government had agreed to all the Finance Ministry proposals that previous governments had rejected.

Hammer: School day won't be shortened

LIAT COLLINS and YOCHI DREAZEN

EDUCATION Minister Ze'evulun Hammer told the first meeting of the Knesset Education Committee yesterday that, although he is not happy with the budget cuts, the school day will not be shortened, classrooms will not be more crowded, and special education programs will not be harmed.

The committee, which unanimously voted MK Emanuel Zissman (Third Way) its chairman, heard that the cuts would affect the building of classrooms and sports facilities; reduce the number of school buses in the center of the country; reduce the number of adults accompanying handicapped children on outings and on buses to school; cut training programs for teachers; and reduce the number of classrooms that will get air conditioning.

But, Hammer said, "We won't agree to children coming home from school any earlier." He also promised that the program "Tomorrow 98," emphasizing technology and science education, and the Shenhar Report program to increase Jewish education will not be harmed.

"We will stick by the plan to make the Israeli student more scientific but more social and more Jewish or Arab, as the case may be, and more humane. I don't see any contradiction between the two," Hammer said.

Zissman added that while no hours were being cut in the upcoming year, approximately 69,000 hours would be cut in the 1997-1998 school year, for estimated savings of NIS 92 million.

The Education Ministry is one of those hardest hit by the proposed cuts, and faces the loss of over NIS 400 million from its budget.

Additional proposed cuts include: delaying the implementation of a longer school day by three years until the year 2000; forcing parents to pay a yearly charge for their children's health services while in school (which was previously paid by the government); delaying construction of 150 new classrooms; and cutting almost NIS 69 million in extracurricular activities.

The proposed cuts in the building of new classrooms came under intense fire by many who feared that it would mean increasing the number of students in each classroom above current levels, which the previous Knesset Education Committee had recommended cutting.

"These cuts will drastically diminish the quality of education in the country," said Avraham Ben-Shabbat, secretary-general of the Histadrut Teachers' Union. "We are against anything that hurts students or teachers, and will fight the cuts by all means available to us."

Former education minister Amnon Rubinstein described the proposed loss of new classrooms as "inconceivable." "It can't be that they are seriously considering raising the number of students in a classroom, which are already among the highest in the world," he said on Sunday.

The proposal to force parents to pay for their children's health services also came under attack yesterday, with Shai Lachman, head of the National Parent's Association, saying that his group was considering a strike to delay the beginning of the upcoming school year.

"We will never agree to turning back the wheel on this issue," Lachman said, adding that the previous Knesset Education Committee had decided that parents would not have to pay the charge.

"We're fearful that all the improvements of the last four years will soon disappear," he said. "But we will fight hard to ensure that doesn't happen."

Experts blast cuts of benefits to elderly

YOCHI DREAZEN

THE proposed elimination of NIS 161 million of the NIS 175 million used to give government subsidies to the elderly came under fierce attack yesterday. The money had been used to give the elderly discounts on such things as public transportation and municipal property taxes.

"It's absolutely Machiavellian the way the government has decided to go after one of the largest, but least organized segments of the population: the elderly," said Hebrew University Prof. Eliezer Jaffe, an expert on the problems facing the elderly and other low-income groups. "The elderly poor, who don't have pensions or assets, are really in a bind."

Dr. Jenny Brodsky, director of the Brookdale Institute's research program on aging, explained that the elderly had received the discounts after the passage of the 1992 Veteran Citizen's Law, which the new government now seeks to repeal.

"The Knesset originally passed the law in 1989, with the intention of helping the elderly, but it was mostly theoretical and contained very few practical suggestions," she said, adding that following the 1992 elections, a committee was set up under labor and social affairs minister Ora Nattir to recommend specific ways to help the elderly.

"They recommended giving the elderly discounts on things that receive government money, because they felt that would give the government leverage to ask for the discounts," she said.

Brodsky explained that the discounts ranged from 50 percent off the cost of public transportation, to reduced prices for medicine, phone bills and municipal property taxes, all of which added up to NIS 175 million a year. That allowance has now been cut to NIS 14 million, which only covers public transportation and medicine.

ways of raising money for the deficit-ridden national health insurance system, he said, including "other types of taxes."

Haneghi said he does not think the whole system should be junked, "but I have a feeling that the law must be amended. I have to learn the subject in depth" before making decisions.

Jerusalem PA officials reject police summons for questioning

BILL HUTMAN

IN a move that has infuriated the Palestinian Authority, Jerusalem police yesterday summoned a number of PA officials to the Russian Compound police station today, to warn them against violating the ban on PA activity in Jerusalem.

The PA officials have all apparently refused to appear. They include at least the seven members of the PA legislative council from Jerusalem. The police spokesman declined to say who was summoned.

"We have been elected to a council set up under an agreement between Israel and the PLO, and the Israel Police has no right to summon us, and try to intimidate us," Ziyad Abu Ziyad, a council member and one of those summoned, said.

He described the move as his first personal experience with the new government's policy in eastern Jerusalem, saying, "If this is the spirit of the new Israeli government, then things look very bad."

"If the Israeli authorities have a message for us, they surely know the proper channel is through the

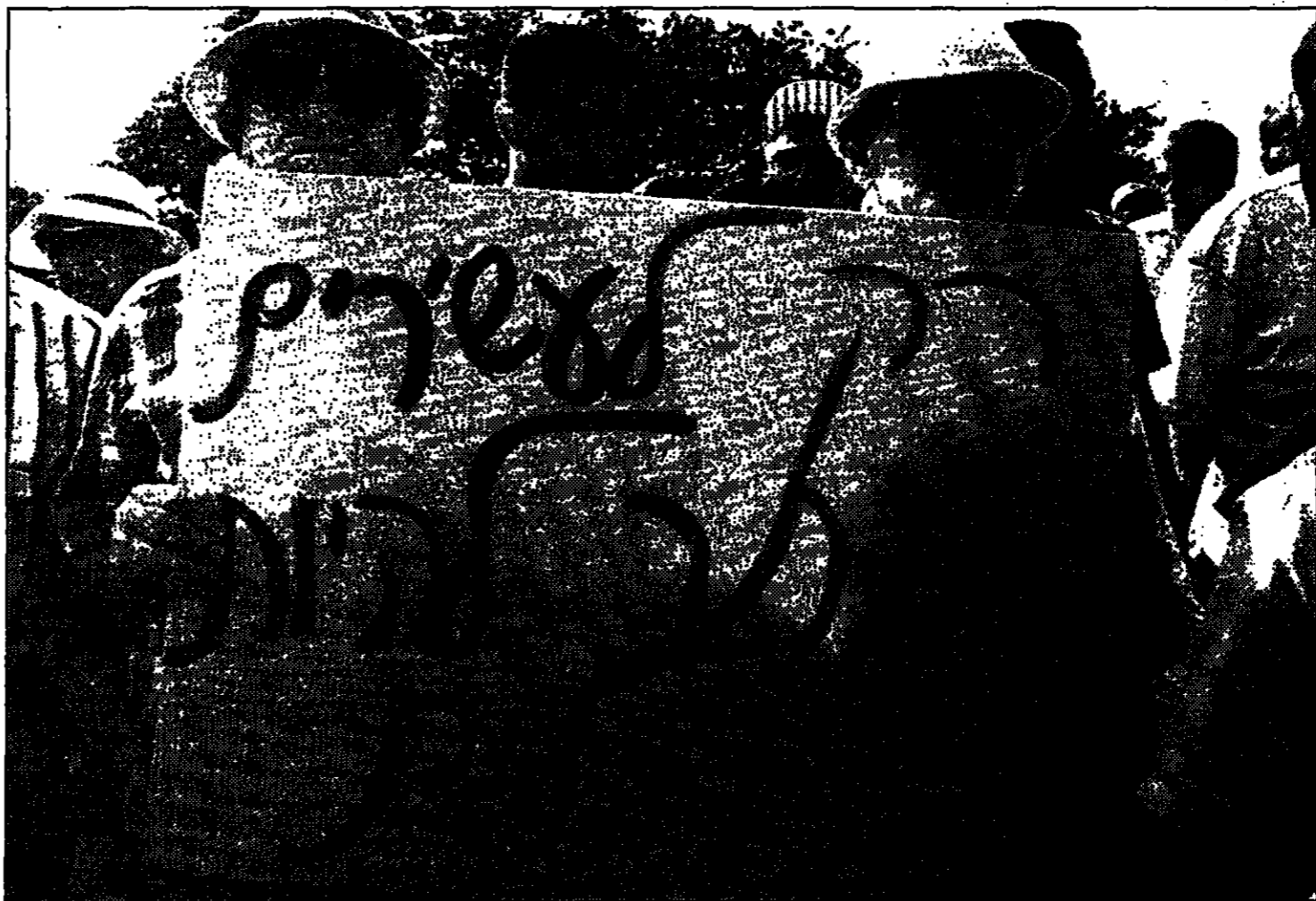
liaison office," Ziyad said. The other Palestinian councilors summoned were Ahmed Zayer, Khatem Eid, Amir Jarjouri, Ahmed Qreia, Hannan Ashrawi, and Ahmed El Bataeh.

Palestinian officials were particularly upset with the manner in which they were summoned, with police clearly knowing in advance no PA official would show up at the police station.

Police sources confirmed they realized the Palestinians would likely not come, but believed the summons itself would serve as a warning to them not to violate the prohibition on PA activity in the city.

The PA officials were each given a separate time to report to the Minorities Division, the Jerusalem police department that deals with security matters in Arab sectors of the city.

In several cases, the division head, Eli Mizrahi, personally called the officials. "We know the limits [of our activity] in Jerusalem, and respect them," Ziyad said. "It seems that it is only Israel that does not understand what its limits are."



The elderly and residents of development towns protest yesterday outside the Knesset against the government's economic plan. "Only the rich can get sick," reads the sign. (Reim Hender)

Pensioners, development town workers stage Knesset protest

MICHAL YUDELMAN

AN estimated 1,000 pensioners and workers from development towns yesterday demonstrated outside the Knesset against the government's economic decrees, which will hurt mainly senior citizens and middle- to lower-income earners.

The demonstration was organized by the Histadrut and the labor council secretaries, and included Histadrut Chairman MK Amir Peretz, Labor MKs Rafi Elul and Ra'anan Cohen, and other members of the social caucus in the Knesset.

"This is a bad government, an evil one which strengthens the rich and hurts the poor and the weak," Histadrut Executive member Pinni Kabbalo said at the demonstration. "But we won't let it."

Gideon Ben-Yisrael, who is leading the struggle of the pensioners, said the demonstra-

tion was the opening shot of a battle against the economic decrees and blows inflicted by the government.

"We'll hold protest strikes, we'll go from town to town and from village to village, mobilizing pensioners. We'll bring thousands of pensioners to demonstrate for the cause, as we have in the past," he said.

Former foreign minister MK Ehud Barak laid into the economic decrees earlier yesterday, calling the budget slash "amateurish. There is nothing to boast in the speed in which it was carried out. The health minister doesn't know his ministry's budget or understand what is going on in his ministry, and neither has the

labor minister studied his ministry's budget yet. Even the prime minister, who may have studied economics at university 25 years ago, is not familiar with the state budget yet."

"This is a policy of haste, not of judgment. If it's taking Netanyahu so much time to learn the Hebrew issue, couldn't he find time to study the state budget?" Barak said on an interview with Army Radio.

Commenting on the cut in the IDF, Barak said the worsening of the pension and retirement terms of career soldiers is a violation of signed wage agreements and commitments dating back more than 20 years, on the basis of which soldiers invested their life's work. Changing their retirement terms and pension age now is a breach of trust and "will exact a dear electoral price."

Ministries seeking alternative ways to cut health budget

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Health and Finance ministries will work jointly over the next month to prepare an alternative plan to reduce the health budget by NIS 500 million, so that those who can least afford it will not be harmed, Health Minister Tzahi Haneghi said yesterday.

He said that the government's plan to

charge all patients NIS 10 per doctor's visit in community health clinics and NIS 20 for a hospital outpatient visit is "completely unsatisfactory and regressive." Since he "earns NIS 8,000 a month" and has three young children, Haneghi said he wouldn't

think twice about spending NIS 90 or so monthly for health care (in addition to health taxes deducted at source). But he said he knows there are many people for whom this is a major expense. Ministry officials will look into other

ways of raising money for the deficit-ridden national health insurance system, he said, including "other types of taxes."

Haneghi said he does not think the whole system should be junked, "but I have a feeling that the law must be amended. I have to learn the subject in depth" before making decisions.

Poll: Palestinian views on peace process unchanged

JON IMMANUEL

THE first Palestinian poll since the election of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu indicates there has been little change in Palestinian attitudes toward the peace process.

Support for continuing the process increased from 78% in a March poll by the Nabus-based Center for Palestinian Research and Studies to 81% in its latest poll on June 28-30.

A December CPRS poll showed 40% thought a Palestinian state would be established within five years, while this poll indicated 44% felt an "acceptable solution"

would be reached on Jerusalem, refugees, borders and settlements.

The change of government has also little affected attitudes toward cancellation of the PLO Covenant as a condition for continuing the peace process. The amendment was supported by 48% in June compared with 50% in a CPRS October poll.

While 70% put themselves in the peace camp, only 12% said they support groups opposed to the peace process, while 19% had no opinion. This indicates movement

away from opposition groups by people who have not yet moved over to the pro-Oslo groups.

Support for Hamas was under 8% and for Islamic Jihad under 2%. Just how reliable the poll is may be questioned as only 81% agreed with the statement that "I have given truthful answers to all the questions." The pollsters put the margin of error among the 1,383 interviewees at 5%, compared with the usual 3%. Positive responses were about 5%-8% higher in Gaza than in the West Bank, except in the last question to which they were slightly lower.

THE Kiryat Shmona town council is pressing the government to fulfill promises made by the previous government to confrontation-line communities, and the town in particular, after Operation Grapes of Wrath.

"This time we don't intend to wait for another Katyusha rocket to fall or another Grapes of Wrath to receive what we have been promised," Acting Mayor Herzl Ben-Asher declared yesterday.

"Enough time has passed since the elections and our problems have not been mentioned. On the contrary the government is talking about cutbacks and we are afraid our problems will be forgotten once again. We won't let that happen," said Ben-Asher.

He spoke after the town council Sunday

DAVID RUDGE

night decided unanimously to call on the government to fully implement all the benefits and incentives promised the town and its residents to compensate them for the security situation.

Ben-Asher noted that these included raising the level of income tax exemptions from 10 to 20 percent for residents of Kiryat Shmona.

"Residents were also promised that they would receive a 50 percent reduction in municipal tax payments," he said. "There is also the matter of promised grants to encourage industrial development, and grants for people constructing bomb shelters for their own homes because there is not enough room in public bomb shelters to house all residents."

"On the education issue, we were told we would receive more teaching hours, instead of which they are being cut, while we are still waiting for air conditioners that were promised for all schools."

In the meantime, the municipality, which has a deficit of over NIS 20 million, is struggling to find money to pay the salaries of employees.

"We are calling on the government to immediately implement all the decisions and promises that were made by the previous government in all fields," said Ben-Asher.

"We intend to meet with the finance minister on Thursday, but if nothing is forthcoming we will take concerted action to press the government to honor the obligations and promises," he added.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MKs' attendance may be published
KNESSET Speaker Dan Tichon is considering publishing MKs' attendance records. "It's not unlikely that we will publish who was present at committee meetings to encourage greater participation," Tichon told the House Committee yesterday. He also said the meetings will be opened to greater media coverage. *Liav Collins*

Road safety program endangered
Lack of funding is keeping the country's most successful road safety program, the electronic monitoring system being tested in Netanya, on hold for a third day today. The project's coordinators are waiting for the Transport Ministry to transfer sufficient funds to the municipality for the project to continue, but bureaucracy is preventing this move. Project coordinator Jerry Ben-David is worried that if funding does not come soon the project will simply fold. "Once you've stopped something it's hard to get it started again," he said. He suggested the government look into handing the project over to a private organization to ensure efficient management and to prevent unnecessary bureaucracy. *Keren Markuze*

New Telecard depicts Olympics
Bezeq's new Telecard depicting the Atlanta Olympic Games goes on sale tomorrow. Produced in cooperation with the Israel Olympics Committee, it is "meant to wish Israeli sportsmen and women luck" in the games. The phone card, produced in 100,000 copies, contains 50 phone units. *Judy Siegel*

(Continued from Page 1)

gent girl," Bar-Ei and Geva criticized Dassy Rabinowitz for "trying to incite patients she met during hospitalization to complain against Prof. Rachmilevich. This weakens the relations and trust between [him] and patients he treats."

Bar-Ei and Geva noted that Rachmilevich, whom they cited as "one of the most senior hematologists in the country, replete with accomplishments in medicine," had diagnosed Rabinowitz's disease and treated her for 18 months. Doctor and patient "fully cooperated without any conflicts, but two months ago, their paths parted and they entered a collision path."

When Hadassah doctors said there was little more they could do for her, rabbis advised that she

be transferred to another hospital. She was admitted to Haifa's Rambam Hospital, where the hematology department is headed by Prof. Jacob Rao, a US-born, internationally respected expert said by the team to have "a different approach to treatment - medically as well as organizationally - and a divergent world view."

There was "tension" and "poor communication" between Rachmilevich and Rao, the report stated. Returning home from Haifa, she needed an urgent transfusion, but family and friends said Rachmilevich told him that having left Hadassah, she should go to Rambam for help. Rachmilevich later told the

CANCER

investigators that he had merely been unwilling to give her a transfusion without receiving full medical information from Rambam on her treatment in the interim. In the end, she was given a transfusion at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital a full day after failing to get Hadassah's help.

Haneghi told reporters that he "fully accepts" the team's recommendations.

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Kahalani: Not enough police on roads Arad Festival's fate due today

RAINE MARCUS

POLICE must play an integral part in cracking down on traffic offenders, but other bodies should be involved in the war against fatalities on our roads, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said yesterday.

"While the number of traffic police is sufficient, the number of police patrolling the roads and highways is definitely insufficient," said Kahalani, who was touring the National Traffic Police headquarters in Ramle.

The minister was shown hi-tech equipment used to catch speeding drivers and those who fail to keep a distance. Ministry regulation will be changed to enable police to be out on the roads more often, Kahalani said.

"Although the police play a major role in reducing the number of accidents and offenders, other bodies must take responsibility too. We must ask ourselves if the Public Works Division is doing enough, if the Transport Ministry intends to change policies, and whether the courts will expedite legal proceedings against offenders," he said.

He added that sufficient funds should be provided to educate drivers, and that all bodies should unite and coordinate ideas to solve the problem of accidents and reckless driving.

Traffic police will receive instructions to stop and examine drivers' credentials and will be



A truck driver stopped by police on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway explains his case to Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani (right) and Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz yesterday.

encouraged to hand out more reports and suspend licenses.

Traffic police also plan to stop and check truck drivers more

frequently, and the Transport Ministry's Licensing Department will be forced to ensure that such drivers undergo

necessary tests before receiving truck licenses.

Drivers' behavior on the roads must also change dramatically

to reduce accidents, Kahalani said, and police will play a major part in helping such changes.

Arad Festival's fate due today

HELEN KAYE and Itim

TEL Aviv District Court Judge Efraim Shalev has postponed to this afternoon his decision on granting an injunction against the holding of the Arad Festival, scheduled for August 6-8.

The petition came from the parents of the three teenagers killed at last year's festival: Eitan Peled, 17, Chen Yizhak, 16, and Na'ama Elkaviv, 15.

The children were trampled to death during the panic that ensued when a guard rail collapsed during the Mashina farewell concert, which had been heavily oversold.

The parents, some of whom were present at the hearing, charged that the basic conditions which led to last year's disaster are unchanged and that holding the festival would be life-threatening.

Eitan's father, Michael Peled, said he was astounded to hear festival producer Nahum Langsam say the police, Magen David Adom, and the Fire Department had not yet issued the necessary permits. The Arad Festival office said that they were pending and were expected to be in place when the festival opens.

No event can take place, the judge insisted, unless there is written authorization from the police.

"And if they don't get it," asked Peled. "Will they cancel? A few days before the festival?"

The parents also requested the court order Arad Mayor Bezalet Tabib distance himself from any decision making by the Festival Association. They opposed a compromise suggestion whereby Tabib would nominate a deputy. Although Tabib no longer heads the association, as he did last year, he must authorize association requests.

A commotion broke out during a break in the proceedings, when Meir Rosen, a Holocaust survivor who now lives in Arad, shrieked at Peled: "The Nazis didn't manage to burn me then and no one is going to destroy me now."

"Someone wrote a letter to the newspapers in my name saying that Arad would be destroyed by fire and brimstone if the festival were allowed," Peled explained. "I suppose that's why he screamed at me."

Peled said that he didn't reply, but another of the parents engaged in a shouting match with Rosen.

Itim reported there were heated exchanges between the parents and the festival organizers that spilled into the courthouse corridors and lobby after the hearing was over.

Meretz, haredim plan demos on Rehov Bar-Ilan

BILL HUTMAN and EVELYN GORDON

MERETZ is again planning to demonstrate on Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan, after attempts by President Ezer Weizman to mediate a compromise between the party and haredim leaders failed.

In the meantime, haredim are planning a major demonstration this Shabbat in which thousands will march from Kikar Shabbat to Rehov Bar-Ilan.

Haredi activist Yehuda Meshi-Zahav said the Eida Haredit decided to protest "the authorities' continuing refusal to grant the residents' request to close the street on Shabbat."

He said that the haredim decided on the demonstration because after more than two years in which Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert failed to keep what the haredim saw as a pre-election promise to close the street, they do not want to risk a repeat now that a new national government has been elected.

"This doesn't require any grace period," Meshi-Zahav said.

He added that the haredim have not asked the police for a license to demonstrate as is their general policy when demonstrating on Shabbat.

Omer Yekutieli, head of the Meretz faction on Jerusalem's City Council, said the party has requested a police permit to demonstrate on Rehov Bar-Ilan on the following Saturday, July 19.

Rumors the Meretz protest was to be held last Shabbat sparked rioting by thousands of haredim, in which

16 persons were detained. Meretz, however, agreed to postpone the demonstration at Weizman's request. But the president has given up his mediating effort, after he was unable to broker a compromise.

Yesterday, he only raised the issue briefly with Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy. Levy expressed support for Weizman's proposal that Rehov Bar-Ilan be closed during prayer times on Shabbat, but he has not taken a firm stand on the matter, a ministry spokesman said. The spokesman said Levy, of the National Religious Party, is still studying the issue.

Ministry sources, however, said the only thing holding Levy back from ordering the street closed during prayer times is opposition from several ministry officials, most prominently National Transport Supervisor Alex Langer.

Levy is concerned with the legal implications of his overruling Langer, who has publicly stated that Rehov Bar-Ilan is a major thoroughfare and must be kept open seven days a week.

Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said the police is considering Meretz's permit request, and will meet with Meretz leaders in coming days.

Meretz has asked that some 300 supporters be allowed to march up Rehov Bar-Ilan, and then hold a rally of some 600 protesters at the intersection of Bar-Ilan and Rehov Shmuel Hazavi.

Anatomy of a Shabbat Shalom compromise

BACKGROUND BILL HUTMAN

ELAZAR Sturm, the man behind the compromise for the Rehov Bar-Ilan controversy, is confident that his idea will win out.

"We studied all the different possibilities, met with dozens of experts and representatives, and closing the road during prayer time was the only solution that seemed to work," he said in an interview yesterday.

Sturm, director-general of Shorashim - Judaism, Culture and Science, headed the committee set up by Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert in December 1994, that came up with recommendations for how to settle the controversy over Shabbat road closings in Jerusalem.

The report recommended that Rehov Bar-Ilan be closed during prayer times on Shabbat. It called for closing the north Jerusalem street for 90 minutes at the start

of Shabbat, Shabbat morning from 7:30 to 11:30, and 105 minutes before the close of Shabbat. Traffic would be permitted at all other times.

Sturm said he came up with the plan after analyzing a Transport Ministry report on Rehov Bar-Ilan traffic. "The entire area [of Bar-Ilan] is 100 percent haredi, so it meets the basic criteria for being closed on Shabbat," Sturm said. "The issue is that the Transport Ministry has categorized the road as a 'major artery,' putting it together with other roads that don't just serve the local population," and which therefore must remain open seven days a week, Sturm said.

The Transport Ministry report showed that 15,000 vehicles used the road daily during the week, but on Shabbat the number dropped to 3,400. During "prayer times," the traffic is even lighter.

For Sturm, this was justification for partially closing Bar-Ilan on Shabbat. "At the start of Shabbat, there's barely a single car on Bar-Ilan. The same for Shabbat morning. The only problem is in the afternoon," Sturm said. That, he said, would be the compromise.

Haredim could live with the traffic during hours when they were normally at home. Haredi leaders have expressed support for Sturm's idea. Meretz, which is leading the

fight in the name of the secular population, has rejected it, on grounds that it would set a precedent for further haredi demands, and in the end would result in the total closure of the road.

Alex Langer, National Traffic Supervisor, has also rejected the compromise, on the grounds that major arteries that have no immediate alternatives must be kept open seven days a week. In the past, Langer had the final say. But Sturm believes that he will ultimately be over-ruled.

Sturm says that in private conversations with Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy he understood his compromise would be adopted by the government.

"My position hasn't changed. I said last year that there is no other way to solve this thing, and I continue to say it today," Sturm said. "It's just a matter of time."

Expert: Raising traffic fines will not solve enforcement problem

KEREN MARKUZE

FINES for traffic violations will be increased significantly, if a proposal approved at yesterday's cabinet meeting passes the Knesset. But Hebrew University road safety researcher Eliahu Richter is unsure the move will have the desired effect.

The suggested change would see speeding fines reach as high as NIS 3,000, failure to stop at a stop sign would be punishable by up to NIS 2,000, and the fine for failure to yield the right of way would also be significantly increased.

According to Richter, however, the increased fines would only be successful in targeting high-risk categories, such as those who habitually break travel at speeds significantly above the limit.

Richter believes the enforcement policy should be directed toward the larger population, whose minor infractions often go undetected.

To do this, he suggests increased use of electronic monitoring, a method currently being used only in Netanya. These devices would increase the number of people caught speeding, including those only driving slightly above the limit.

"Most deaths and injuries come from the majority going slightly above the speed limit. We should increase the likelihood of detection, not the severity of the punishment. This will get us better results," he said.

While the equipment is expensive to set up, Richter is confident of the profitability of the program.

"The revenue [from fines] can pay for the cost of the system within one year," he said. "Programs from Australia and Britain have shown that with electronic monitoring, you can generate revenue from a huge number of detections with smaller fines, than from steep fines imposed on a small number of people."

However, Richter is doubtful the proposed legislation will pass. He noted that many MKs are speeders, and will not agree to such huge fines. In addition, he said, judges will be less likely to convict if the fines are so high.

MKs to redouble efforts in war on traffic mishaps

EVELYN GORDON

SOME NIS 20 million the Road Safety Fund has never made use of should be applied to hiring extra traffic policemen, Economics Committee chairman Elie Goldschmidt (Labor) suggested yesterday at the committee's maiden session, which was devoted to road accidents.

Goldschmidt also announced that the committee would continue work on a comprehensive road safety bill submitted by 91 MKs last Knesset, which never passed because of government opposition. One of the bill's main provisions is to set up one agency whose job is the prevention of traffic accidents. At present, responsibility for this task is scattered among several different agencies.

Health Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, who, together with Ran Cohen (Meretz), was the main force behind the bill, promised the committee he would continue to support it from inside the government.

Eliezer Zandberg (Tsomet) suggested, however, that it might be better to break the bill up into several smaller sections, so that at

least parts of it would get passed.

"We tried passing one big bill in the past, and we failed," he said. Goldschmidt said another mission of the committee would be to pass a number of private members' bills to regulate truck drivers, who are currently not even required to pass a medical exam. Goldschmidt noted that while trucks constitute only 3% of the country's vehicles, they are involved in about 18% of all accidents.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon promised that traffic accidents would also continue to be on the plenum's agenda.

"Before the Knesset recesses at the end of the month, I will summon all the relevant ministers and ask [them] to report to the Knesset on what is being done on this issue," he said. "They promised to present a comprehensive road safety plan to the Knesset."

Goldschmidt said the committee would also continue its discussions on the issue during the Knesset recess, since "the slaughter on the roads does not take the Knesset recess into account."

Gene therapy used here for first time

JUDY SIEGEL

A 50-YEAR-OLD woman suffering from a brain tumor has been administered gene therapy in the first such procedure here.

The woman underwent insertion of the genetic material at Tel Hashomer's Sheba Hospital, which is participating in international clinical trials. She had surgery seven months ago to remove the tumor and radiotherapy, but a month ago a second brain tumor was discovered. Now doctors are hoping that gene therapy will help her.

The clinical experiment was initially carried out by the US National Institutes of Health and coordinated by Dr. Zvi Ram, who has since returned to Sheba's neurosurgery department.

The effectiveness of gene therapy "is not yet clear and cannot be predicted," hospital sources said. However, it is "an idea revolutionary in its approach to brain tumors and brings the hospital and its neurosurgery department into the 21st century."

The treatment is based on the fact that brain cells do not ordinarily divide, but only the cancer cells do. There are viruses that attack only cells that divide. Thus by using genetic engineering techniques, cells carrying the herpes virus are injected into the tumor and only infect the cancer cells. The cells are then destroyed by an anti-herpes drug.

Local lawyers found lacking in English

RAINE MARCUS

LOCAL lawyers do not possess a sufficient command of English, according to a study carried out by Michal Pristock of Bar-Ilan University's English department published in the Tel Aviv Bar Association's *Haglim* monthly journal.

According to the four-year study, one out of three practicing lawyers reads legal material in English; one in 20 writes or reads rulings in English; one in four will skim law books in English; and one in five reads general English literature.

Most lawyers who regularly use English are those who deal in international law, according to the study.

Criminal lawyers come "somewhere in the middle." Many lawyers, mostly in white-collar crime trials, quote from British High Court rulings.

"Personally, I could represent a client in English, although I rarely do," said Moshe Aloni, chairman of the Tel Aviv Bar Association, who specializes

mainly in criminal law.

"And if I realized that my English was not fluent enough, there are translators at hand. When I studied law, we learned a lot from English language verdicts. But today, although reading legal material in English is required, we have our own Supreme Court rulings in Hebrew."

However, he added, large law firms dealing in international law must employ attorneys who

have a full command of English. Such firms often hire American or British lawyers who are licensed to practice here.

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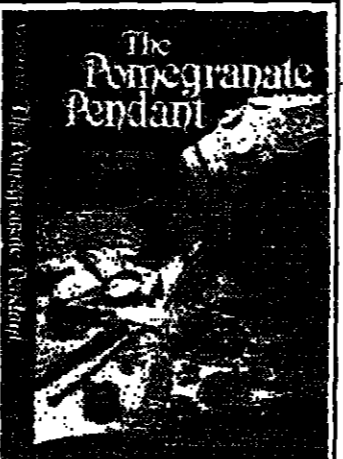
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Nature's call: Flood, volcano, storm

China floods kill 400

JANE MACARTNEY
BEIJING

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SOUTHERN China mopped up yesterday after some of the worst floods in a century killed more than 400 people, with farmers replanting crops and troops butressing river embankments.

With the death toll at least 405 in six provinces and expected to rise as more bodies were dug out from landslides or found in collapsed homes, officials were on alert for more storms as the annual typhoon season neared.

Thousands of workers building the world's biggest water control project, the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze river, took precautions in case of flooding and opened sluices to reduce the water level, state television said.

"Crops have suffered some serious damage and in some areas are still swamped by water," said an official of the Chinese Red Cross.

"There will be some partial grain shortages in disaster areas in the next one or two months and we are planning to transport grain to those areas," he said.

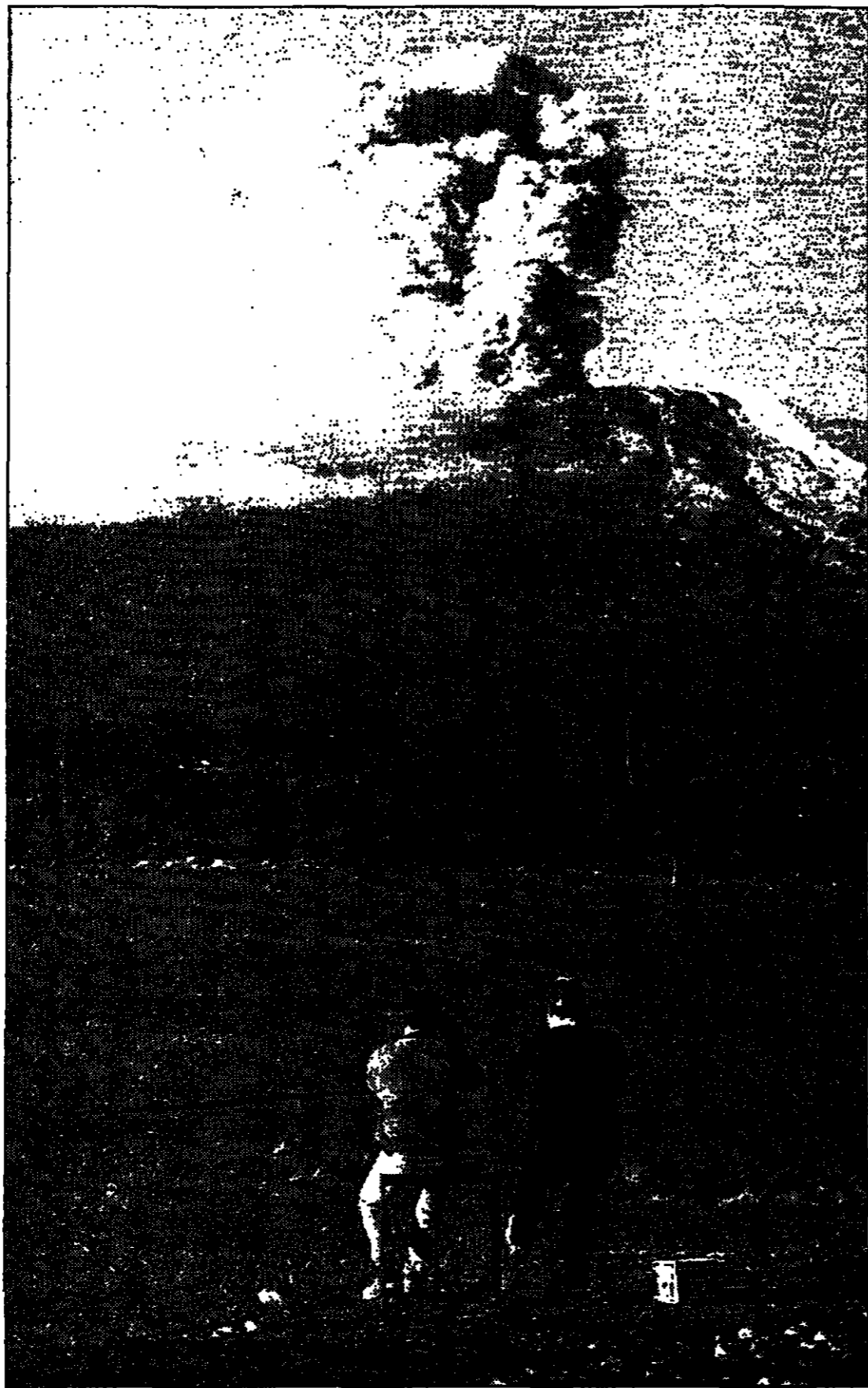
Officials estimated damage from floods that have hit the provinces of Hubei, Guizhou, Zhejiang, Anhui, Jiangxi and Guangxi at well over \$2.0 billion with 1.35 million hectares (3.3 million acres) swamped and 20 million people affected.

Rescue workers distributed 850 tons of grain to homeless in parts of eastern Zhejiang province, where the worst floods in half a century swept the scenic provincial capital, Hangzhou, and inundated rice paddies, the China News Service said.

Damage in Zhejiang was estimated at 5.5 billion yuan (\$660 million) with five million people affected.

In the worst-hit southwestern province of Guizhou, rescue workers had recovered 194 bodies after storms at the start of the month that dumped 291 mm (11 inches) of rain on the province in just two days - a record since 1921.

(Reuters)



Two people watch Mount Ruapehu, located in the central north island of New Zealand, billow smoke and ash yesterday during its biggest eruption in several weeks. The volcanic ash clouds closed the country's biggest airport for the second night running, with about 3,000 domestic and international passengers suffering delays or cancellations.

(Reuters)

First hurricane of Atlantic season menaces Caribbean

CHARLOTTE AMALIE, US Virgin Islands (AP) - Hurricane Bertha churned across a string of Caribbean islands yesterday with torrential rains and 128 kph winds, sending people in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico scrambling for shelter.

The first hurricane of the Atlantic season prompted hurricane warnings for Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and all of the Caribbean's northeastern islands as well as the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Bertha grew overnight to a 640-kilometer-wide menace and was centered just west of St. Martin at 1200 GMT - about 160 kilometers east southeast of St. Thomas, advancing west-northwest at 32 kph. Hurricane experts said the storm was expected to strengthen yesterday and might produce a few tornadoes.

On St. Croix in the US Virgin Islands, rising winds whipped up garbage cans and tree branches, whirling trash into the streets. Sheets of rain flooded streets and homes in the low-lying Water Gut neighborhood.

More than 200 people were in shelters in Fredericksburg, said administrator Lawrence Bastian. He said some people refused to leave their trailers, which were brought in as temporary housing for victims of Hurricane Hugo in 1989.

The eye of the storm was expected to pass over St. Thomas - the main US Virgin Island devastated by Hurricane Marilyn in September - at mid-morning, and Puerto Rico's northeast corner several hours later.

To do that, its path would first take it over St. Kitts and Nevis, Anguilla and the US Virgin Islands of St. John and St. Croix.

Hurricane warnings also were broadcast in Saba, St. Eustatius, Dominica, Guadeloupe and St. Barthelmy.

Forecasters said there is about a 10 percent chance the storm will strike Florida, the nearest point on the US mainland.

Clinton tapes testimony in 2nd trial in 10 weeks

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton offered his second videotaped testimony for a Whitewater trial in 10 weeks, a role his Republican critics called evidence that the president has breached the trust of the American people.

Clinton testified for two hours and 20 minutes Sunday in the case of Arkansas bankers Herby Branscum Jr. and Robert Hill. They are accused of illegally using bank funds to reimburse themselves for contributions to political candidates - including Clinton in 1990 when he ran for governor and in 1991 when he considered seeking the presidency.

Afterward, a White House statement reiterated that Clinton is not the first president to testify in a criminal trial. It cited US District Judge Susan Webber Wright's order that officials not discuss the deposition until after it is shown in court.

"The president has consistently stated that he will provide the court with whatever information he can offer, and today's deposition fulfills that promise," the statement said.

Branscum and Hill were said to have been present for Clinton's testimony. White House officials, citing the judge's order, would not confirm that.

Clinton has not been accused of wrongdoing, but his testimony prompted renewed criticism Sunday from Republicans who said he owes the nation a better explanation of his activities.

"It's pretty clear that the president has violated the trust that a plurality of the American people gave to him in 1992," Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, chairman of the House Republican Conference, said on Cable News Network's Late Edition.

Drug barons spread shadow of fear over Ireland

ANDREW MARSHALL
DUBLIN

DUBLIN is a tale of two cities. In one, the old Ireland of writers James Joyce and W. B. Yeats thrives in quaint pubs and narrow streets.

In the other, drugs trade openly on the streets between shifty youths and the litter underfoot is spent syringes.

"The drugs problem here in Dublin is as bad as in any urban area in Europe," says Fergus McCabe, head of the umbrella organization for Dublin's inner-city community groups.

"There are young kids of 14 smoking heroin, getting addicted. Drugs are easily available. The problem has been there for years but it's only now people are taking notice."

The inner-city estates of the Irish capital, like most of its European equivalents, have long been plagued by drug abuse.

But in recent months the tentacles of the drugs trade have reached out from Dublin's poverty blackspots to strike fear into the whole nation.

Ireland, which used to boast of low crime and a tranquil lifestyle, has been shaken by a series of drug-related murders.

Mafia-style assassinations ordered by feuding crime godfathers have become increasingly common in a war to sell drugs at home and control their shipment to Europe.

In the past year eight people have been gunned down by hitmen in the pay of Dublin's drug barons, police believe.

In many districts, local residents have begun mounting 24-hour vigils at makeshift barricades in an attempt to prevent drug dealers entering the area. Some residents have gone further, taking the law into their own hands.

In May, an enraged mob battered

"And the question is... whether the American people ought to give the president four more years when he won't stand up and tell them the truth about what's happened in his administration," Boehner said.

But Democratic Sen. Paul Simon of Illinois, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee and the now-defunct Senate Whitewater Committee, said Clinton did not abuse his office - unlike the "direct presidential involvement in the abuse of power" of the Watergate scandal during the Nixon administration.

"If the president were not testifying, then I would feel very uncomfortable," Simon told CNN. "But the fact that he is willing to do so, I think, is a credit to him."

Branscum and Hill are charged with illegally using funds from their Perryville, Arkansas, bank and trying to conceal from the Internal Revenue Service large withdrawals the Clinton gubernatorial campaign made in 1990 for get-out-the-vote efforts.

Sunday's testimony was Clinton's second in 10 weeks. In April, he testified as a defense witness for just over four hours in the Whitewater trial of Arkansas Gov. Jim Guy Tucker and Clinton investment partners James and Susan McDougal, all of whom were subsequently convicted.

After attending morning church services with daughter Chelsea, the president took a seat in the Map Room of the White House, where he was questioned by attorneys for Branscum and Hill and cross-examined by prosecutors. The room was the place where President Franklin D. Roosevelt held top-secret briefings during World War II.

a suspected drugs dealer to death with hammers and baseball bats in the streets just behind the famous Guinness brewery. Witnesses say a crowd of women and children looked on as Josey Dwyer, a 41-year-old heroin addict and AIDS victim, was kicked and beaten. He bled to death.

"Nobody would condone vigilantism but it reflects a deep-seated anger in local communities," McCabe says. "People just want to see something done about the problem."

Police say the Dublin drugs trade is controlled by a small number of criminal godfathers. Most are identified by cryptic nicknames - the Monk, the Viper, The Penguin, Judge Dread.

Many are multi-millionaires, living in large mansions in the countryside outside Dublin despite having no known legal sources of income. Some are said to own champion racehorses and to send their children to expensive schools.

Police say that although they know the identity of Dublin's crime bosses they lack the evidence to bring them to justice. Despite their lavish lifestyles, most shun publicity, threatening journalists who try to investigate them.

The murder of Guerin only served to drag the drugs barons further into the glare of publicity. Irish newspapers ran a series of front-page articles on their activities, and the government reacted to public outrage by introducing a sweeping package of new anti-crime laws.

Ireland's drugs problem is not confined to Dublin. Other cities like Cork and Limerick face a growing heroin problem, police say, and Ireland's wild coastline is used to land large cargoes of drugs for smuggling into the rest of Europe. (Reuters)

Murder of nine-year-old in Liverpool echoes chilling Bulger case

LIVERPOOL, England (Reuters) - In a chilling echo of the 1993 murder of toddler James Bulger, British police were searching yesterday for three boys seen near the spot on a railway where a nine-year-old girl was found brutally murdered.

Bulger was abducted while shopping with his mother and murdered by two 10-year-old boys on a Liverpool railway line. Police said they were keeping an open mind whether children in this northern port city could again have blood on their hands.

Jade Matthews, nine, was reported missing from her home in Bootle, near Liverpool, after going out to play with friends on Sunday afternoon.

Police found her fully-clothed body - the head battered by sticks and stones - lying by a nearby railway line.

James Bulger's broken body was found by a railway line in Bootle in February 1993 after he was lured away from his mother at a Liverpool shopping center. He had been stoned.

Scenes of his abduction filmed on security cameras in the shopping center horrified television audiences worldwide.

Two boys were sentenced to indefinite detention

after a murder hunt that plunged the nation into collective grief and horror at the violence inflicted by such young children on an innocent toddler.

Police reluctantly acknowledged the similarities between the Bulger case and that of Jade. The news they wanted to trace three nineor 10-year-olds seen playing in the area on Sunday sent a chill through the nation.

"It brings back terrible feelings for all of us. I'm sure we mustn't jump to conclusions but in this terrible moment we really need to hold each other up in the community," the Anglican Bishop of Liverpool David Shepherd told BBC radio.

"Quite clearly those boys ought to come forward to tell whatever they know," the bishop added.

Detective Superintendent Geoff MacDonald told a news conference he was keeping "an open mind" about whether children could have been involved in Jade's death.

"We are most anxious to trace those children and would ask them to come forward so we can speak to them," MacDonald said.

He said there was nothing to indicate that Jade was dragged to the scene, or that she had been abducted.

Delta accident: Never-before seen type of engine failure

PENSACOLA, Florida (AP) - What caused a roaring jet engine to blow apart on takeoff, tear into the cabin and kill a mother and son is not yet known. But investigators are sure of one thing - they've never seen an accident like it.

"This is a totally new phenomenon," National Transportation Safety Board member George Black said Sunday after investigators gathered the shattered pieces that ripped open a Delta Air Lines jet fuselage like a tin can.

They found a 45-kilogram titanium hub inside the engine that had broken into two pieces, and shards of metal that flew for hundreds of meters.

"No one in this particular room with an awful lot of maintenance experience had seen this sort of failure before, not a hub failure," Black said. "We only know it separated. We do not know why."

Packed with holiday travelers, Delta Flight 1288 was speeding down the runway Saturday when its left engine - mounted on the side of the fuselage near the tail - blew apart after it caught fire. Within seconds, flying pieces of

metal ripped a gash across the side of the plane, killing Anita Saxton, 39, her son Nolan, 12, and injuring two of her other children. Derek Saxton, 15, suffered a small burn on his shoulder and his nine-year-old sister, Spencer, had a long gash on her face and a broken leg.

Five other passengers were also injured, and some seated near Saxton's seat No. 37 said they escaped the flying metal by centimeters.

Passenger Ernie Lazos of Medford, New Jersey, said there was an explosion and an odor on the plane. "You just heard this pop."

Pilots told investigators did not see any birds or foreign objects - that could have been sucked into the engine - on or near the runway as they headed for takeoff.

Metalurgists and Navy ballistics experts will be asked to help find the cause of the failure as investigators try to piece the engine back together.

Flight data recorders have been sent to Washington, D.C., for analysis, and investigators were checking all of the plane's systems and maintenance records.

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Man walks into police station with wife's head

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) - A man in eastern Sri Lanka walked into a police station carrying an umbrella in one hand and a bag containing his wife's head in the other, authorities said yesterday.

Karupiah Chandrasekaran, 30, told police he cut his wife's head off in a fit of rage after accusing her of infidelity.

Chandrasekaran, 30, a tea plantation worker in Badulla town, had complained to police two months back that he suspected his wife of having an affair with a neighbor.

On Sunday, a frustrated Chandrasekaran tried to drag his wife, Kalappan Selvam, to the police station, an officer said.

When she resisted, he chopped off her head with a long knife used by plantation workers to cut tea bushes, he said in his confession.

delicio 1320

Pressure grows on Karadzic

Mass graves of massacre victims unearthed by UN investigators

KURT SCHORK
SARAJEVO

THE international community yesterday increased the pressure on Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic to step down, by threatening to disqualify his party from Bosnian elections.

Prosecutors at a Yugoslavia war crimes tribunal urged major powers yesterday to arrest indicted war criminals Karadzic and his military commander General Ratko Mladic and hand them over to The Hague to stand trial for genocide.

The call came as UN investigators began to unearth mass graves of massacre victims, starting with Muslims killed in the Bosnian Serb conquest of Srebrenica a year ago, believed to have been Europe's worst atrocity since World War II.

Both men remain in office but behave differently. Mladic has kept a low profile and helped the implementation of the military aspect of the Dayton accord.

In contrast, Karadzic has done much to disrupt the peace process, restricting freedom of movement to preserve his ethnically pure Bosnian Serb republic, and intimidating the opposition ahead of the elections.

An official organizing the poll threatened to bar the ruling Bosnian Serb party from September elections if Karadzic, its current chairman, retains any form of office.

US Ambassador Robert Frowick said he would use all his powers as head of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) mission in Bosnia Herzegovina to block the Serb Democratic Union (SDS) from the September 14 elections.

The OSCE, a 55-nation security forum, is responsible for organizing, running and monitoring inter-ethnic elections.

"It just isn't right to continue with Mr. Karadzic, an indicted war criminal, as its head, and we are faced with a defiance that has increased over the past week or so."

The Dayton peace agreement, signed last December to end the 43-month-old war in Bosnia, banned indicted war criminals from holding official positions.

Under international pressure, Karadzic handed over his powers last week to his deputy, Biljana Plavsic, but defiantly kept his title. He was also re-elected chairman of the Bosnian Serb's ruling SDS party for the next four years.

"Karadzic epitomizes the overriding problems of extreme nationalism that brought on the war in the first place and he has pushed against the tide of the peace process since before the ink was dry," Frowick said.

Reacting to Frowick's comments which took many diplomats in Sarajevo by surprise, Bosnia's Prime Minister Hasan Muratovic told Reuters that Karadzic should not be there at all.

"There is a moral part to this - would any man vote in any democratic country in any elections in which Karadzic participated as the head of the party?"

Another of the problems plaguing the peace process is the presence of Islamic warriors in Bosnia.

America's CIA Director John Deutch slipped into Sarajevo last week on a visit to convey Washington's fears that Islamic militants in Bosnia are a threat to US forces.

The unannounced trip came soon after a bomb blast tore through a Saudi Arabian military complex housing foreigners, killing 19 Americans and injuring more than 250 people. (Reuters)



Bosnian investigators exhume the bodies of nine Bosnian Muslims in the village of Svrake near Sarajevo yesterday. The nine men were executed by Serb forces in December 1991. War crimes investigators, their suspicions aroused following exploratory diggings, secured the site on Sunday of a possible mass grave of Muslims believed slaughtered by Serb forces. (Reuters)

Chechnya showdown looms

TIMOTHY HERITAGE
MOSCOW

A SHOWDOWN loomed in rebel Chechnya yesterday as Russian President Boris Yeltsin, weighing strategy and personnel changes for his new four-year term, conferred with security supremo Alexander Lebed.

Lieutenant-General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, the commander of Russian forces in Chechnya, issued an ultimatum to separatist rebels to free all prisoners by tonight.

"Otherwise, the joint forces' command will take appropriate steps against the bandits and will move to destroy them," Interfax news agency quoted Tikhomirov as telling a news conference at Khankala base outside the Chechen capital Grozny.

His comments raised the stakes in the 19-month-old conflict just days after Yeltsin defeated communist Gennady Zyuganov in last week's presidential election runoff.

The 65-year-old president, not seen in public since June 26 because of what aides say is a sore throat, secured a truce last month to boost his chances of re-election.

But tensions have increased in the past few days, with each side accusing the other of failing to meet the terms of an agreement under which Russian troops are supposed to withdraw from Chechnya by September 1.

Lebed, appointed by Yeltsin after he came third in the first round of the election, is due to visit Chechnya soon to assess the situation first hand. The hawkish Tikhomirov, who denied a report he was being removed, said he briefed Lebed last week.

Lebed met Yeltsin to discuss plans for restyling the Security Council - an inner circle which has adopted Moscow's main decisions on Chechnya since the start of the conflict.

Itar-Tass news agency said Yeltsin had approved the broad outline of a plan for the future role of the Security Council, of which Lebed is now secretary and wants to take on wider powers, but gave no details.

It was not clear if they had touched on Chechnya, but Russian news agencies said Lebed later discussed the conflict - and his role in ending it - at separate talks with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin.

Russian media have portrayed Lebed and Chernomyrdin as rivals in a struggle for power, the balance of which could be determined by how Yeltsin defines Lebed's duties.

Lebed's powers remain ill-defined and could depend on how much power the Security Council is granted.

Chernomyrdin also discussed Chechnya with his nationalities minister and the head of the southern region's pro-Moscow administration, but no details were released. Yeltsin, who also had talks with Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov, wants Chernomyrdin to remain prime minister but has not said what changes he will make in the cabinet.

He must style a team that can tackle deep economic problems and win the backing of the opposition Communist Party, which has a powerful grip on parliament with its nationalist allies. (Reuters)

Turkey's Islamic-led government wins vote of confidence

ANKARA (AP) - Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan won a vote of confidence yesterday, clearing the way for rule by an Islamic-inspired government for the first time in Turkey's 73-year modern, secular history.

Parliament's voice vote was 278-265. One of the 550 deputies abstained, and six skipped the vote. One of those not showing up was a former chief of staff, Dugan Gunes, now a deputy, who didn't want to vote against his True Path Party, a coalition partner, but who opposes Erbakan's anti-NATO Welfare Party.

Calling the vote the start of "a new era," Erbakan said his government would work for "solutions and changes."

"We will work day and night with faith," Erbakan said, thanking God for the confidence vote victory. Welfare deputies lined up to kiss his hand as a sign of respect.

Israel's Foreign Ministry sent a letter of congratulations to the new government.

Turkey's Western allies have worried that the Welfare-led government could move the country closer to an Islamic orbit.

17 die as rare snow storms sweep South Africa

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) - Melting snow revealed three bodies on the streets of South African towns yesterday, taking the death toll from unprecedented winter storms to at least 17, police said.

They said eight people had died of exposure while nine suffocated as they huddled around coal fires burning in unventilated shacks.

Two days of snowfalls over wide parts of the country blocked major roads, stranded motorists and trapped hikers and climbers.

Nationally, the weather bureau said the snowfalls were the worst since June 1964. Forecasters said the snow and cloud would begin to clear by today but the icy temperatures would only warm gradually.

Some of the heaviest falls occurred in the high-lying eastern part of Free State province, blocking the main artery from Johannesburg to Durban.

A council official said the road through a nearby mountain pass was under snow 2.5 meters deep. "There's no way out of town. We've got chaos down here," said police Sergeant Sonja Holtzhausen.

Cars hijacked, burned in growing N. Ireland row

ANDREW HILL
PORTADOWN, N. Ireland

NORTHERN Ireland Protestants angered at the banning of a march through a Catholic suburb hijacked vehicles and blocked roads yesterday in a growing confrontation with the government and police.

Demonstrators blocked main roads into Belfast, poured wet cement on a key motorway intersection and set alight several hijacked lorries in a trial of strength over the banning of a parade through the Catholic Garvaghy road area of Portadown.

The demonstrators pushed Northern Ireland closer to the brink of violence after almost two years of uneasy peace brought about by cease-fires and an Anglo-Irish attempt to get Protestant and Catholic politicians discussing a settlement.

Police investigated the killing of a Roman Catholic taxi driver in nearby Lurgan, a Catholic stronghold, but said there was no indication that it marked a return to the

tit-for-tat sectarian killing that scarred Northern Ireland for 27 years.

Joe English, who is close to Loyalist gunmen of the outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters, said it was not a sanctioned Loyalist killing and said the organization was standing by a cease-fire it declared in October 1994.

David Trimble, head of Northern Ireland's biggest Protestant pro-British political group, the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP), said the killing would not serve the purpose of the province-wide protest against the banned march.

But he laid the blame for the protest at the feet of the police and government for caving in to demands from Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA, that annual marches by the Orange Order be turned away from

Catholic areas.

"The wider agenda is the agenda of Sinn Fein/IRA which is trying at one level to drive any expression of Britishness off the streets of Northern Ireland and at another level is trying to provoke serious public disorder," said Trimble.

Trimble paid a lightning visit to a church at Drumcree, near Portadown, where up to two thousand marchers are being blocked by hundreds of police and troops from reaching Garvaghy road.

At least two demonstrators were injured by plastic bullets when police fought off attempts by marchers overnight to breach banks of razor wire preventing them from reaching the road.

The Orange Order, a 200-year-old grass roots organization whose annual "marching season" reaches a climax on Friday to honor a 300-year-old victory by King William of Orange over Catholic King James II, called for more protests. (Reuters)

Cuban military officer hijacks plane to US base

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - A Cuban military officer hijacked a commercial flight in Cuba at gunpoint on Sunday and forced it to land at the US Navy base at Guantanamo Bay on the communist-ruled island, US officials said yesterday.

The hijacker, identified by the Pentagon as Lt-Col. Jose Fernandez Pupo, requested asylum in the United States and was in the custody of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the officials said.

One said the other 16 people aboard the flight, which had originated in the nearby southeastern city of Santiago de Cuba, were released unharmed and returned to Guantanamo City, close to the US base at the eastern end of the island.

"No one was injured," Navy Commander Joe March, a

Pentagon spokesman, said. An official at Santiago de Cuba airport, asked if he could confirm the hijacking had taken place, said: "It's true."

The official, contacted by telephone by Reuters from Havana, gave no further details.

One US official in Washington, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the hijacker apparently acted alone.

It was the second such embarrassing incident for the Cuban authorities in eight days. Last week two members of Cuba's boxing team training in Mexico for the Atlanta Olympics slipped away and sought asylum in the United States.

Speaking of the hijacker, one US official said, "We are looking at the case to determine what our legal responsibilities and obligations are."

Four killed in clashes with Moslem militants in Libya

CAIRO (AP) - At least four people have been killed in renewed clashes between Col. Muammar Gaddafi's forces and Moslem militants in eastern Libya, travelers to Egypt said yesterday.

The battles Sunday were the fourth incident of fighting in the last year between between Libyan security forces and militants who have vowed to oust Gaddafi and replace his regime with Islamic rule.

The latest clashes erupted in Benghazi, Libya's second largest city, as a security unit conducted searches as part of a nationwide crackdown on Islamic militants, the travelers said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

They said a lieutenant colonel who headed the security force was shot to death during fighting in al-Birka, a small town adjacent to

Benghazi. Two militants also died in the battle.

The travelers, including Libyans and other Arabs, said that members of the slain officer's clan then attacked a house and killed the brother of a militant blamed for the officer's death.

After the clashes, a large security force was deployed around the city and conducted a house to house search for militants and weapons, the travelers said.

The government issued no report on Sunday's fighting. In the past, it has said the battles in eastern Libya erupted as security forces sought to track down drug smugglers.

Gaddafi is known to have sent his army to northeastern Libya several times in recent months, apparently to stamp out unrest by the radicals.

Italian court rejects challenge to Priebke trial

ROME (Reuters) - An Italian military court of appeal yesterday rejected a prosecution demand to dismiss the panel of judges at the war crimes trial of former Nazi SS Captain Erich Priebke because of bias, judicial sources said.

Priebke's trial, over the killing of 335 men and boys in Italy's worst World War II atrocity, was dramatically halted on June 17 when prosecutor Antonio Intelissano made his allegations.

Priebke, 62, has been remanded in custody since extradition last year from Argentina. His trial, at which he is accused of being one of the main organizers of the SS massacre at the Ardeatine Caves near Rome in March 1944, began in May.

Prosecutor Antonio Intelissano demanded the judges' dismissal following a statement by a general who worked at the court that he had overheard presiding judge Agostino Quistelli say months before the trial started that he thought Priebke should be cleared because he had been following orders.

His request led to the temporary suspension of the trial and it was not immediately clear after yesterday's ruling whether it would resume regularly at the next session tomorrow.

Sebastiano Di Lascio, a lawyer for civil plaintiffs attached to the case, said he believed Quistelli should still stand down and added that he could face a fresh challenge to his competence to judge the case if he failed to do so.

Rawecki said the factory, 200 meters from Auschwitz, had been a tobacco warehouse before World War II.

"The current way in which the factory is run is a model for conservation," said Rawecki, who drafted the proposals.

The cigarette factory is separated from the museum by the site where the Polish firm Maja's attempts - now halted - to build a supermarket aroused strong criticism.

Auschwitz plan has cigarette plant near death camp

WARSAW (Reuters) - A cigarette factory controlled by US firm Philip Morris will stay in place under Poland's plan for a protected zone around Auschwitz, the plan's author said yesterday.

"In our plans this factory will remain," said architect Marek Rawecki, who drafted the proposals for the area around the camp. Earlier this year Philip Morris paid \$27.7 million for 33 percent of Krakow's

Zaklady Tytoniowe, which owns the factory, along with an option to take a further 32 percent if it invests a further \$145 million over the next three years.

Michael Parsons, east European public relations chief for Philip Morris, said last week the company was seeking an urgent meeting with the Polish government to discuss the plan.

Approached by Reuters, architect

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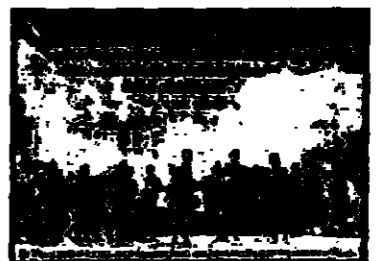
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Netanyahu's US visit

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu arrives in Washington today bringing with him a politician's greatest asset: low expectations. The American media were particularly simplistic and unfair in their treatment of Netanyahu during the Knesset election campaign - New York Times columnist Tom Friedman even compared him to Russia's Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov, arguing that both were "swept with a nostalgia for a bygone era."

Since winning the election Netanyahu has, in the American mind, been put on probation. News stories continue to attach the epithet "hard-line" as if it were part of his name. But while the media grasp for straws to prove that Netanyahu's ascension to power will mark a return to the bad old days of Israel-US relations during Yitzhak Shamir's tenure, Washington's decision makers are ready to give Netanyahu a chance to disprove their worst fears.

In some regards, Netanyahu is arriving in Washington in a stronger position than he may experience for a long time to come. He not only enjoys the "honeymoon" status of any newly elected leader, but he is also Israel's first directly elected premier, and can therefore claim an especially clear mandate from the Israeli people.

Netanyahu should use his first trip to the US as prime minister as an opportunity, not only to lift the cloud he is under for being a "hard-liner," but to enlist Washington's support for the demands he will be making from the Palestinians and Syrians in the months ahead.

In their meeting today, President Bill Clinton is sure to press Netanyahu to take steps to reassure the world that he will not stall or reverse the peace process. The prime minister should respond that Israel will keep its commitments under the Oslo Accords, while demanding that the Palestinians keep theirs. He should also suggest that it is time - for the world as a whole and the US in particular - to stop turning a blind eye towards Syria's use of terrorism against Jerusalem, Ankara, and Amman. And he should argue that he represents the preference of a clear majority of Israelis for a more realistic, clear-eyed approach to ending the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that this new approach has a better chance of long-term success.

Moreover, Netanyahu should point out that the best way for the US to advance the peace process is not to be a reluctant partner, but to stand four-square behind his new approach, so that the Arab world will drop the sabre-

ratting approach of the Cairo summit and work with Israel's new prime minister. If the US drags its feet, Palestinian compliance with Oslo will be tougher to obtain and the peace process will suffer.

Tomorrow, Netanyahu will speak before a joint session of the US Congress, where he is bound to be greeted warmly, particularly by the Republican leadership. Both House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott are themselves former young Turks who rose quickly through the ranks. Both are inclined to believe that anyone under such blistering media attack must be on the right track.

Netanyahu's determination to open Israel's economy and, even better, wean Israel off US economic assistance will warm the cockles of every Republican heart on the hill. Here Netanyahu will score points by simply reiterating the desire he shares with every Israeli leader - and with every Israeli - the desire to live in peace. In his speech he should praise America's renewed commitment to combating terrorism since the tragic bombing in Dhabran, and urge increased pressure on states that support terrorism, including Syria.

The New York aspect of Netanyahu's visit is no less important than his Washington stay. Aside from giving him an opportunity to sell Israel's economy to investors on Wall Street, Netanyahu will also have a chance to restore the warm relationship between Israel's government and the US Jewish community, which felt neglected by former premiers Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres.

Netanyahu's scheduled meeting with Republican presidential candidate Robert Dole, meanwhile, will be a golden opportunity to obtain commitments from a man who, despite the current polls, could well be the next president of the United States and whose support for Israeli policies, despite his championing of the bill to move the US Embassy to Jerusalem, has had rough patches in the past.

If Netanyahu's US trip succeeds in moderating his image in American eyes, adds to his stature as prime minister in the eyes of Israelis, and strengthens his negotiating position for the bumpy road to permanent status negotiations with the Palestinians, then it will certainly have been a resounding success.

While this is a lot to expect from a first trip, there may not be a better opportunity to enlist American support for the path to peace that the Israeli electorate has chosen. The prime minister should assertively represent that new path, and obtain specific and public American commitments of support that could be critical in the tougher negotiations ahead.

OLEG 96



Please, Mr. President

JERUSALEM is steaming with Washington fever. Netanyahu's first visit to the US after his election "by a hair" is a crucial first test for relations between the new Israeli administration and the White House.

Shimon Peres and Rabin before him enjoyed what could be termed the best Israel-US relationship in history. Netanyahu, on the other hand, was boycotted by the US State Department when he served as Israel's deputy foreign minister. However, a Prime Minister Netanyahu is clearly something else altogether. While Washington is listening to Netanyahu, Jerusalem will be listening to Clinton.

Most political observers here believe that until the US elections are over Clinton will be harmless to any Israeli government. And if Clinton plays the role of a typical US president seeking a second term, this is probably true. However, current circumstances may not be so typical, and Clinton may have to be more decisive and assertive than in the past.

Palestinian-Israeli peace is an issue that does not bear indecision. There are no vacuums in the Middle East, and where there is no movement forward, there is always regression.

That means terrorism. If Netanyahu's commitments to uphold the agreements reached by the Peres government are only slogans, Israel will very rapidly witness a new round of Hamas suicide bombings.

Forward movement is no guarantee that Hamas will remain silent, however; what it does mean is that Arafat and his regime will continue to cooperate with the Israelis in fighting the organization. Israel and the Palestinians are supposed to be already into negotiations on a final-status agreement. Under a Peres government most people assumed it would be based on the establishment of a

GERSHON BASKIN

Palestinians state which would enter into a full peace treaty with Israel. Under Netanyahu, that kind of agreement appears highly unlikely.

Instead Netanyahu will likely offer the Palestinians more territorial control with civil rights, under Israeli sovereignty; in other words, some kind of "homelands" arrangement whereby the

Help us Israelis understand who our premier is and what he plans to do

Palestinians would control education, civil affairs, welfare, some economic policy, taxation and a few other elements of local government. They wouldn't control security issues or foreign relations.

The Netanyahu government would also probably allow the Palestinians a great deal more economic prosperity than did the Rabin-Peres governments. This policy sits well with Netanyahu's general American approach to markets and economics, as well as with his belief that better economic welfare for the Palestinians will help deflate their political aspirations.

If THIS assessment is correct, then Clinton should ask Netanyahu: What is the difference between your plan and apartheid? If the Palestinians have only civil rights and no national rights, if there continues to be two legal systems governing two kinds of citizens - one for Israelis living in the territories and one for Palestinians there - how is this different from pre-Mandela South Africa?

If the only difference is that Israel will encourage economic prosperity, does this vision of the future match the US's commitment to democracy? Clinton should press Netanyahu to clarify parts of his vision and ask him what it is about possible Palestinian sovereignty that he finds so frightening.

Perhaps it is the chance of Arafat raising a proper army, or the Palestinians becoming full-fledged members of the UN or concluding treaties with other countries. Or is it that the Palestinians would control their own borders and immigration policies? What elements of sovereignty are so frightening that Netanyahu cannot envisage the Palestinians having the same unalienable rights as almost all other nations on the planet?

Most significantly, what makes Netanyahu believe that the Palestinians would ever agree to a full peace with Israel on the basis of an agreement that denies them their national rights? It is unlikely that Clinton will get Netanyahu to adopt Peres's policies. He probably won't even try. But if he pushes for answers to these questions, Netanyahu will have to provide some real answers.

The prime minister has told Israelis to expect some surprises. He meant that just as Menachem Begin surprised Israel and the world by bringing peace with Egypt, so he will surprise us all by bringing full peace to the region.

Right now, without any knowledge of who Netanyahu is and what he wants, anything he does will come as a surprise. So Mr. Clinton, we beseech you, unwrap the package and let us know what's inside. The writer is Israeli director of the Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information.

Old at 60?

GREER FAY CASHMAN

MY feminist sisters may want to scratch my eyes out, but someone has to say it.

Ladies, you're hypocrites. All that hype about equal opportunity - but only when we on the distaff side are on the receiving end of the goodies being doled out.

Sure we're entitled to equal pay for equal work; and we should be allowed to do any job a man can do providing we have the required qualifications.

But if we're asking for all that and getting it - albeit at too slow a pace - why on earth should we start receiving old age pensions from age 60 instead of having to wait, like men, till we're 65?

I have no idea of the extent of the burden of these additional five years of payments on the national economy, but I bet it comes to many millions of shekels.

Equal-opportunity advocates have remained remarkably silent over the fact that there was no budgetary slash in this particular area.

Not that it wasn't considered - but Communications Minister Limor Livnat, one of the torch-bearers of equal opportunity, was reported as having intervened to prevent it.

If that's true, all I can say is: Shame on you Limor!

Have you forgotten that it's only six years since Dr. Naomi Nevo won her five-year court battle against the Jewish Agency (which forced her to retire at age 60), scoring a landmark victory for equality?

Or that the Equal Retiring Age Law which permits women to keep working till age 65 if they so desire was enacted only as recently as 1987?

If this administration is into reversing social welfare laws introduced by its predecessors, who knows how far it will go? Apart from anything else, how many women want to be considered old at 60?

WHEN Bismarck first introduced social security measures just over a century ago, relatively few people managed to live as long as 65. Today most people - particularly women - not only live well beyond 65, but remain active and productive.

Why not encourage so-called senior citizens to remain part of the work force for as long as they are able and willing, continuing

Okay, ladies: Let's have a little equality - for men this time

to pay income tax to the government and not receiving pensions till, say, age 70?

After all, a judge doesn't have to retire before 70, and city councilors and MKs aren't bound by any kind of age limit. They can remain in office for as long as the electorate is willing to keep them there.

So why discriminate against the rest of us? If people can work, contributing thereby to their own and the national welfare, let them.

And pension regulations should certainly not be biased in favor of women. On the whole, women are going to outlive men, so why start doling out their pension payments five years earlier?

If women were put on the same footing as men in this area, cut-backs in other more vital areas could be reduced, if not prevented.

All the pre- and post-election promises notwithstanding, we've still got a situation in which the rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

Instead of pushing middle-income families down toward the poverty line, the government would have done better to introduce additional income tax measures for people earning NIS 20,000 per month and upward, increasing income tax by anything from 1% to 5%. It certainly would have been a kinder cut than what's being done now.

Families in higher income brackets would be far less likely to feel the pinch than those earning somewhere between NIS 7,000 and NIS 8,000 per month.

It would also have been a nice gesture if government ministers - who all earn well in excess of NIS 7,000 per month - had voted themselves a 5% reduction in salary.

But let's at least give them an incentive by having women themselves come out against the inequality as regards retirement age.

Of course, this may be hoping for too much. In the battle between money and ideology, money usually wins.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the paper.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE DIASPORA'S FATE

Sir, - Abraham Rabinovich tries to justify Jewish presence in the Diaspora ("Why should Jews emigrate to Israel? J.P., June 28). His very arguments raise some questions.

We know how most Jewish Diasporas, over the years, have ended: the Diaspora of Babylon, with its great yeshivot where the Talmud was compiled; the Jewish Diaspora in Arabia at the time of Mohammed; the Golden Age Diaspora of Spain; the great Jewish center in Poland before World War II, as well as other Diasporas, large and small. In fact, Rabinovich's own, unwitting statement about the Diaspora as a "fabulous depository of Jewish heritage" including "...the cemeteries of the Ukraine and Poland..." rings out as the clearest statement regarding the fate of the Diaspora.

There may be some sadness about the splendid synagogues of the Egyptian Jewish Diaspora being left behind and "nationalized as part of the Egyptian cultural heritage." It is only a pity that the Egyptians did not view their Jews as such a national treasure, and treat them accordingly.

Even if one of the most benign and beneficent Diasporas in Jewish history - North America - there is only one question about the Diaspora: with total assimilation growing by leaps and bounds, and with anti-Semitism fast bringing up the rear, which way should American Jews finish: by remaining there and disappearing - one way or another, or by re-Jew-venating their lives in Israel? DR. NILY SHIRYON Tel Aviv.

JEWISH ILLITERACY

Sir, - Abraham Rabinovich's question, "Why should Jews emigrate to Israel?" (J.P., June 28) is an example of the consequences of Hillel Halkin's concern ("Wanted: 'Epikorsimim...', J.P., June 28) that "the secular educational system... turns out Jewishly illiterate Jews." L. BLASS Jerusalem.

SHOCKING REPLACEMENT

Sir, - I share Mr. Arnold Sallum's deep regret at Mr. Bar-Ilan's departure from The Jerusalem Post (J.P., June 24). With the electronic media and most of the other Israeli newspapers almost invariably showing a left-wing bias, it was a pleasure to know that there was, at least, one journalist out there whose viewpoint, as expressed in his excellent leaders, tallied with one's own.

I find it shocking that the paper has chosen to replace Mr. Bar-Ilan's prestigious Eye on the Media column with a columnist who reveals, right from the start, his left-wing orientation. Mr. Hillel Halkin, in expressing solidarity with "the diasim" (J.P., June 28), as he calls the ultra-Orthodox, made the comment that the murder of Yitzhak Rabin did not come from their ranks. This constitutes incitement against the national religious camp as a whole, and represents yet another attempt by a left-winger to fan the flame of hatred against this much maligned, fine, idealistic segment of the community. RHONA YEMINI Givatayim.

ARAB SUMMIT

Sir, - Barry Rubin's "Moderates still have upper hand" (June 28), about the recent Arab summit, states that it "endorsed the Syrian and Lebanese demands for full Israeli withdrawal [to the 1967 borders] and the Palestinian Authority's goal of obtaining an independent state, including East Jerusalem." Further, "If Israel did not meet its commitments there would be trouble ahead." Then Mr. Rubin draws the conclusion that "this is the kind of Arab summit that Israelis have dreamed about for decades." It is clear to this reader how the writer's conclusion follows from the facts as he describes them. JAY SHAPIRO Givatayim.

OVERDRAFT

Sir, - Finance Minister Dan Meridor claimed inter alia ("Meridor pledges strong support for Bank of Israel," J.P., June 27) that "the government must take steps to ensure that much-needed economic reform does not hurt the poor." I am of the opinion that the Central Bank's decision to raise the already high interest rate by 1.5 percent affects low-income earners who, to pay their bills, rely heavily on overdraft. The Knesset Finance Committee should decide that an overdraft of less than NIS 1,000 be charged half the going interest rate. DR. J. WILCZEK Haifa.

INSTILLING COURTESY

Sir, - After every list of appalling accidents on the roads, there is the inevitable call to the authorities to "do something" - to educate the drivers to be more courteous on the roads, to increase the number of traffic police, to enforce the laws. I always get a feeling of despair when I read this - the time to instill courtesy, discipline and respect for laws is from birth, so that it is automatic, and not "learned" as an adult. RACHEL RASBASH Ramat Efraim.

A MODEST SUGGESTION

Sir, - Having recently toured in the area of the Kinneret, Galilee and Golan, I was utterly amazed to note how very few traffic signs there were to advise motorists of permitted speeds. It appears that, in Israel, only main roads are adequately signposted. More road signs can hardly be the solution to the appalling road-death toll, but it would certainly help. Motorists cannot be reminded often enough of their responsibilities. NORMAN COHEN Jerusalem.

Price of computer progress

STEPHEN D. BRYEN

A terrorist attack on Pentagon computer systems has the potential for "catastrophic damage" to national security, according to a special study carried out by the General Accounting Office of the US Congress.

Last year, Pentagon computers were attacked 250,000 times, according to data compiled by the Defense Information Systems Agency, and some of the attacks created major problems.

In one particularly damaging attack against the Rome Laboratory, the Air Force's top command and control facility, the attackers were able to gain control of the lab's computers, link them to foreign sites and steal tactical intelligence and other information stored there.

In today's "Internet-aware" world, computers are increasingly used for all types of communication. The US Defense Department was a pioneer in this area, creating the ARPANet - the Advanced Research Project Agency's network. ARPANet evolved into the Internet, and Pentagon use of the Internet has increased massively over the past five years.

Many critical communications links depend on Internet hook-ups. During the Gulf War, the Internet and the public telephone network turned out to be a vital part of America's operation in the Desert Storm operation.

Even intelligence and counter-intelligence information was distributed through connections, both to US forces and to America's allies in the coalition. This should cause no surprise - the US defense establishment has over 2.1 million computers, 10,000 local networks, and 100 long distance networks.

What will happen when China learns how to use its computers and programmers and its overseas community to attack Western computer systems? How effective can international terrorists become when they have the potential to control vast information resources worldwide?

What about drug dealers, money launderers and Mafia operators attacking law enforcement and defense agencies?

Unfortunately most of the technology available to deal with the problem is far from adequate. To begin with, much of what can be done currently is passive, and given enough time and resources professional hackers can find ways around the barriers.

Some types of threats, such as "smart viruses" and "sleeper viruses" present complicated risks where few solutions are immediately apparent. It is clear that much more technology and better government financing will be needed to avert the danger posed by the unprecedented attacks on computer systems reported by the GAO.

Even more to the point, much tougher pro-active measures are called for to go after the attackers. These can range from traditional law enforcement to non-traditional "reverse" attacks on perpetrators of computer crimes. Until now, the US hasn't had a coordinated pro-active program to deal with the threat. The GAO report to Congress is likely to be the spark that will bring about a major overhaul in US policy.

The writer served as director of the Defense Technology Security Administration and is now president of Delta Tech, a high technology international consulting firm.

MANY "hi-tech countries" - Britain, France, Germany and other NATO countries, Israel in the Middle East, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan and Korea in Asia - need to pay close attention to the GAO assessment of what is happening to American computers, and consider whether the same danger exists for their own systems.

Abraham Rabinovich

July 11, 1996

The Miller's tale

HELEN KAYE

TWO weeks after he landed last April, storyteller, mime artist and new immigrant Jay Miller went up to Kiryat Shmona to perform for those taking refuge in the bomb shelters while Operation Grapes of Wrath rumbled and crashed around them.

"But the war didn't stop, dammit," he says, his eyes owlish behind his granny glasses. "So I had to go back and two days later it was over."

You laugh. Of course you laugh. You're supposed to, but the truth is that there is a passion behind the jest.

He's a man with a mission, to make the world kinder, cleaner, jollier through the stories he tells and illustrates with masks and puppets. He also involves the audience, tying all together with the seemingly effortless ease of the trained mime.

The home in his *Stories from Around the World and Home* is Israel and the Jewish world, from washing pots and pans in a kibbutz to Kabbala stories and legends of the Ba'al Shem Tov. He'll be telling those stories on Thursday at a community center in Tel Aviv.

Next week he'll work with teachers and other storytellers at the Storytellers' Conference at the Tel Aviv Public Library, Beit Ariela.

In the fall he'll be teaching two classes at the Beit Zvi Drama School in Ramat Gan.

And don't rule out the possibility that he'll do a bit of basketball coaching too. With kids.

Miller's Israeli story begins with basketball in 1975 when he almost had a contract to play pro ball with Hapoel Ramat Gan. Almost, because a recently passed law required Jewish prospective players to immigrate formally. He "was ready to commit, but a friend said, 'wait a while.' You've only been here a week."



Storyteller Jay Miller came to his craft after stints as a professional basketball coach and as a teacher of autistic children.

So Miller, his then wife Rita and their children Josh, five, and Rebecca, three, went off to Kibbutz Mishmar Ha'emek for six months, "where they told me that I was the best pot washer the kibbutz had had in its 50-year history."

The idyll didn't last and the family left the country a few months later because of a dressing incident at the kibbutz they'd decided would be their home. But, says Miller, he never really left inside, and he came back "because Israel is very alluring."

"The energy here is very powerful. Every day I get asked why I came back and I answer that every day I live here the question gets another answer."

"Like what is a Jew? There are

so many, all types of cultures and behaviors. I'm looking for that. That's also why I came back; to create culture and share my art."

HIS ART is a late development. Born in Manhattan and raised in the Bronx in a socialist activist family, young Jay imbibed Zionism and human rights with his morning milk, and Yiddish at heder, "the only one of 13 grandchildren to go to an Orthodox yeshiva." He still speaks Yiddish.

Later, at public school and college he exhibited the basketball and baseball skills that nearly got him that contract here, and took him to Sweden to coach pro ball for a year.

Miller graduated college with a teaching degree and began his career in 1978, the year he

divorced, teaching autistic children. He was 28.

"I was broken-hearted," he recalls, "and then, one day in *The Village Voice*, I saw an ad offering mime classes. It seemed to me that for a minute the world froze, and then drew me in to this world of mime and art and theater."

He studied mime and other theater disciplines for six years. His teachers included Marcel Marceau as well as Israeli mime artists Mony Yakin, Shmuel Avital and Claude Kippnis. He began "to use in school on Wednesday what I'd studied in class on Tuesday."

From there Miller expanded to other schools in the New York area and soon he was getting grants from arts councils, school

districts and environmental bodies to present his shows and, as he puts it, "teach teachers how to teach."

Miller has performed in schools, community centers, and on stages all over the US and Canada, where he lived for five years.

He's created characters such as Thadeus the Thief, the vagabond, the samurai, the Wise Woman, and Miles West, environmental detective who hones in on those despoiling the planet that's our only home. He'll bring Miles to the Acre Festival for a program of outdoor environmental theater.

Marcel Marceau once told him: work hard so that when you do your act, you and people will connect. He does, and they do.

Dance exec catches 'infectious' spirit of Karmiel

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

IN 1972, James McDowell, a "nice average American guy, who had never been out of America before," landed in Tel Aviv and began an ongoing love affair with Israel.

The dancer joined the Israeli Opera as a first soloist where he danced in such productions as *The Queen of Sheba* and *A Night in Venice*.

"It was fun; there was a very nice atmosphere at the time," he recalls while sipping a light drink in a cafe outside the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center.

After the 1973 war McDowell left Tel Aviv. "On the way back home I got off the plane in Zurich and have stayed in Europe ever since."

Today, McDowell is the general manager of Ballet Braunschweig in Germany which performs tomorrow and Thursday at the Karmiel Dance Festival. It's the culmination of his longtime dream to return to Israel in a professional capacity.

Last year McDowell, who has returned often to Israel on private visits, made his first visit to the Karmiel Dance Festival and was entranced by the experience.

"There's nothing equivalent in the world to Karmiel," he says. "There's something infectious about folk dancing. It can be boring on stage but it's contagious when you watch people do it for fun and with so much

enthusiasm." Ballet Braunschweig was created three years ago by choreographer Pierre Wyss. It is an international company with 18 dancers, only two of whom are German.

"Most of our work is in Braunschweig where we present two major programs every season. Our last big project was *Romeo and Juliet*, choreographed by Wyss."

McDowell explains that Wyss's work is rooted in the dance-theater tradition. "The dancers are all very well trained in classical ballet but our work is anchored in dance theater, at least in Pierre's works."

"But he is smart enough to also bring other choreographers too and they bring their own style which can be more classical, and also jazz."

In Karmiel, Ballet Braunschweig presents two short programs featuring excerpts from various programs including two of Wyss's major works, *Carmen Raw*, to a score by Chick Corea, and *Clockwork Orange* to music by Beethoven and Uwe Kraef.

"It's OK for such a festival to show shorter programs instead of full two-hour works, but I do hope that we can come back here with the full *Clockwork Orange* because I believe it should be seen everywhere," he says.

Admon tribute evokes feelings of admiration, loss

TO commemorate what would have been the 102nd birthday of composer Yedidya Admon (1894-1981) the Ministry of Education, Culture and Arts, the Tel Aviv Municipality and the Levinsky College organized an evening dedicated to his music.

The Russian-born Admon came to this country in 1906, later went to Paris to study with Nadia Boulanger and lived for several years in the US.

He showed his contemporaries - who were still strongly influenced by Russian melody - where to look for inspiration: Arab music, especially that of the Beduin, and the music of the Jewish communities originating in the Moslem countries and that of the Sephardic Diaspora. Admon's songs like "Shedemat," "Gamal, Gamali," and "Yeroham" became milestones of Hebrew song.

Besides reminding us of the historical importance of the new style Admon launched in the '30s, the evening also showed us how, despite the rise of pop and rock, we still cling to the past. Yet the feeling was that something beautiful and authentic had been lost, and cannot be recaptured.

The performances showed that nobody today can perform Admon. Neither the Liron Children's Choir nor Shoshana Damari, Enosh, Nehama Hendel, The Troubadour Quintet, Moshe Becker, Mira Zakai, Esther Admon nor even the unforgettable Palmah "Kumzits" singer Ilka Raveh was able to recapture the spirit of Admon's music and the

spirit of his time.

However, the spirit of Admon lives on, albeit in a rather transformed manner. Given the amazing renaissance of Oriental music in our culture, Admon's openness toward the East proved not only new and revolutionary but also prophetic.

Enav Center, Tel Aviv, July 2 Benjamin Bar-Am

PIANIST Walter Hantzig made even the aria from Marcello's Oboe Concerto in Bach's piano transcription sound romantic, in his recital in the Enava series, while nevertheless adhering to the Baroque's rules of the game.

There is a distinct personal note about Hantzig's playing. And he made Brahms's Sonata No. 3 sound uncommonly free and alive. Yet he remained mindful of the work's formal concepts, without allowing them to become constraints.

Hantzig knows how to savor a melody to the full - making it a veritable lied on the piano in Schubert's *Wanderer Fantasy*, in which he let a light, caressing touch alternate with decisive, energetic rhythmic patterns. This is an endearing individualism held under firm intellectual control and always remaining faithful to style.

Jerusalem Theater, July 1 Ury Eppstein

HAYDN'S *Creation* was another courageous performance by the Hillel Hebrew University

CONCERT ROUNDUP

Orchestra and Choir, joined this time by the Jerusalem Oratorio and Zamar Choirs, conducted by the always daring Anita Kamlen.

The large choir produced formidable masses of sound, well-balanced and harmoniously blended. This impressive choir was, in fact, the main hero of the performance. The orchestra strings, considering that they are a volunteer group, sounded amazingly well-trained and enthusiastic. The winds, too, made an appreciable effort but seemed to require a more unforgiving conductor's hand.

The soloists were the weaker links of the performance. What they all had in common was a noticeable unfamiliarity with the oratorio singing style. Vocally the most distinguished singer, the forcefully dark-timbred bass Pauls Putnins, might well have made a great hit as Prince Igor or Boris Godunov. Ya'acov Zamir's strained tenor seems more suitable for melodramatic roles than that of the angelic Uriel. Robin Weisel-Capsouto's sometimes too-shill soprano in the higher register substitutes sentimentality for the lyric expression expected of her part.

Jerusalem Theater, July 2 Ury Eppstein

THE PREMIERE of a new work

by a local composer, Menahem Wiesenberg's *To Jerusalem Overture*, was the center of interest in the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra's end-of-season concert, conducted by David Shallon.

The image of Jerusalem is not a romantic or nostalgic one in this work, but predominantly one of the city's intense force and its many strongly contrasting components. These are portrayed at first by opposing dynamics, shatteringly loud and extremely soft, and then by conflicting instrumental groups and disquieting rhythms. Even the calmer episodes are tension-laden, evoking a desert-like, menacing atmosphere.

Barry Douglas's rendition of Beethoven's "Emperor" Piano Concerto had its most blissful moments in the lyrically inspired slow movement. Its carefully prepared transition to the final movement did not lead to the expected explosive climax, and on the whole the tempi and dynamics were more capricious than one commonly associates with Beethoven.

Finally Prokofiev's Fifth Symphony, reduced the concert to pomp and circumstance.

Jerusalem Theater, July 4 Ury Eppstein

IN ITS second visit to Tel Aviv in

Preachers, save thyself

IN TUNE
DAVID BRINN

EVERYTHING MUST GO
Manic Street Preachers (NMC)
This band was hyped to be the savior of British rock when it first appeared in the early '90s.

But over the course of four albums, it has turned out to be just another competent pop-flavored alternative rock outfit, vastly inferior to Teenage Fanclub or Radiohead, two comparable bands. This is its first release as a trio, after the mysterious disappearance last year of guitarist Richey Edwards just prior to a major UK tour. (He's never been found.)

Despite the strong songwriting, crisp production and able musicianship, something is missing here. It's like a collection of puzzle pieces that doesn't fit together. Most of the songs are driven by tasty guitar riffs that sound like they've been copped from somewhere else. You get a tame Nirvana soundalike, "Removables"; a couple of Radiohead-strumming acoustic to crashing electric moments; lead vocals out of the Journey school of high-range histrionics; and on the title track, a faithful Phil Spector production soundalike.

If the band is trying to pay tribute to its inspirations, this is an admirable result, but if it's trying to make a name for itself, it had better start over again.

JETHRO TULL
Aqualung (NMC)

One of the best rock albums of the early '70s returns for a 25th-anniversary encore performance, all rerecorded and remastered for the CD age, and including rare and unreleased tracks.

Band leader Ian Anderson lambastes *Aqualung* in an interview (a copy of which is included with the CD) as a good album, but not a great one, preferring such later products as *Crest of a Knave* (1987).

But historical perspective places this tour de force as the band's creative peak, a song cycle about religion and society that's as dazzling today as it was when originally released.

While the nasty pre-metal rockers, such as the title track and the chugging "Locomotive Breath," are the ones that classic rock radio forces us to remember, the real revelation is the gentle acoustic side of the album. Tunes like "Wond'ring Aloud" and "Slipstream" are among Anderson's best.

Aqualung stands the test of time, and has even improved with age. If you haven't listened to it for the last 20 years, dust off your old vinyl copy and treat yourself. If

you weren't born (or at least musically born) back then, sit back, strap yourself in and discover a long-lost world.

Deep Purple Californian Jamming Live at the Ontario Speedway April 1974 (NMC)

This is a bombastic live performance from Deep Purple, one of more popular hard-rock bands of its day, and it serves as proof that not everything in the '70s was revelatory. The show took place at California Jam in 1974, which was the biggest festival since Woodstock and also showcased Emerson, Lake & Palmer, Black Sabbath and the Eagles.

Featuring that era's excesses - long guitar solos, long drum solos and long songs - the show crystallizes why the punk-new wave movement was inevitable and necessary.

An in-depth moment-in-time capsule of the band on tour is included, and noteworthy for the hilarious account of the band's refusal to go onstage before sunset resulting in guitarist Ritchie Blackmore's classic rock-star antics.

PEOPLE OF THE SONG

Reva L'Sheva

The Time Has Come

This is a promising debut by a quintet of transplanted Americans led by singer-songwriter Yehuda Katz.

Call it Jewish soul music along the lines of Shlomo Carlebach, or call it contemporary soft-rock with a spiritual slant. Either way, it's a tantalizing blend of rock sensibilities and inspirational lyrics.

Special credit to guitarist David Abramson who evokes the style of Jerry Garcia (one of the Katz's admitted influences). Check out the Dead's "Fire on the Mountain"; groove on "Birth and the Rain Dance."

IN TUNE Contest results

You have one more week left to send in the correct answers to the IN TUNE contest No. 1. So far, nobody has correctly guessed the following question.

In which '90s movies do the following songs appear?
The Byrds - "Turn, Turn, Turn"
Tina Turner - "Stand By Your Man"
The O'Jays - "Backstabbers"

The winner will receive a copy of the NMC compilation *Songs from the Movies II*.

Send the answers to IN TUNE, Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000.

Violence and passion in Naharin's 'Yag'

DANCE REVIEW
DORA SOWDEN

WHEN a master creator uses crazy craftsmen, the result is not always immediately accessible or acceptable. Yet Ohad Naharin's new work, *Yag*, at the Suzanne Dallal Theater in Tel Aviv (July 6), turned out to be quite potent.

The opening was too wildly fluent and flexible. It didn't seem possible that his six dancers could make so many moves with so many parts of their bodies and survive the demands of the piece. Yet they reeled and writhed with a strength and flexibility that seemed natural to them.

The three women in brief comedy costumes, and the three men in sloppy, casual dress followed a series of impulses, flitting through scenes of impossible absurdity. There was violence, passion, and self-absorption.

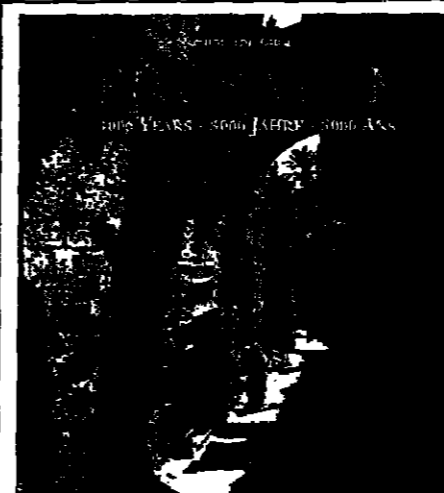
Suddenly a red panel fell on a male dancer, whereupon a female dancer got on top of it and crushed

him. Another woman helped her - and there he stayed.

Then a sound, which had been mostly muted notes or drone drumming, became the tenor solo from Donizetti's opera *L'Elisir d'Amore*. And finally a child's voice brought some sense and order, and controlled movement of surprising beauty.

THERE WAS pleasure at the Habima Theater in Talpiot, Jerusalem (July 2), in being reminded that Bach had a sense of humor. In addition to being funny, *Coffee Cantata* also managed to remain lovely music.

Two graduates of the Rubin Academy of Music and Dance in Jerusalem used it as dance material; Jasmin Palmon and Gachi Low worked well together, especially in the cantata but also in an opening fantasy to Bach's music. An excellent flute player, Marcello Ehrlich shared the program as a soloist.



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TOWER RECORDS' TOP 15

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEKS ON CHARTS	ARTIST	TITLE
#1	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS	RABIN - GOODBYE FRIEND
#2	4	AVIV GEFEN	THE LETTER
#3	7	GEORGE MICHAEL	OLDER
#4	15	ALANIS MORISSETTE	JAGGED LITTLE PILL
#5	5	VARIOUS ARTISTS	VOLUME 10
#6	8	SHLOMO ARTZI	TWO
#7	18	RITA	COMPILATION
#8	3	FUGEES	THE SCORE
#9	11	ETHNIX	POP
#10	10	METALLICA	LOAD
#11	14	VARIOUS ARTISTS	DREAMLAND
#12	16	LOS DEL RIO	MAGARENA
#13	21	GARRAPICHO	FRESA
#14	2	BACKSTREET BOYS	BACKSTREET BOYS
#15	RE	RITA	THE GRAND LOVE

Tower Records' top-selling albums for the previous week. RE - re-entry

Want to be a rock star?

ROCKERS take note. Holon, the city that bred Ethnix and Nour Shulayim, is sponsoring the first nationwide rock 'n' roll band professional competition.

If you win, competition co-sponsors Hed Artzi will produce two free singles by you that will be played on local radio stations.

The first round will be August 1 and the finals will be on August 31 at Puhbox Park in Holon.

Registration deadline is July 15. All you have to do is send a tape with three original songs in Hebrew to Volume Rock, 21 Bezael Street, Ramat Gan 52521.

Helen Kaye

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

8

Tuesday, July 9, 1996

Over 10,000 layoffs expected in public sector

DAVID HARRIS

PUBLIC sector layoffs will exceed 10,000 under the budget-cut plan, government sources said yesterday.

The blueprint approved Sunday by the cabinet includes a commitment to reduce spending on manpower by 2 percent, but left unclear its numerical implications on public sector personnel.

The proposed cuts are intended to go much further than the civil service, and are to include the local authorities, civilians in the defense forces, health funds, the trade unions, universities, and schools. In 1995, 551,000 people were employed in the public sector, according to Bank of Israel statistics.

"It's too early to speak of specific numbers," said Finance Ministry spokesman Eli Yosef. The definition of public sector does differ within the various government departments, with the Central Bureau of Statistics recently having issued a redefinition. One official said yesterday that the government is trying to use the broadest meaning of the term in order to achieve the largest savings.

Only a few hundred layoffs are mentioned specifically in the budget blueprint: 350 in public works and 100 in transport.

Last night, the Histadrut said it would launch a series of protests against the budget plan. "We don't intend on being quiet," said Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz's media adviser Yossi Libovitch. He estimates between 8,000 and 10,000 job losses as a consequence of Finance Minister Dan Meridor's

program. Senior Histadrut figures are scheduled to meet tomorrow to discuss a series of strikes between now and November, when the budget must be approved by the Knesset.

Some economists believe the government is also aiming to reduce the workforces in many of the huge public utility employers, such as El Al, Egged, and Bezeq.

But there could be a problem in the government's effort to reduce staff numbers. "I don't know how they will enforce it," commented Ya'acov Sheinin of the private consultancy firm Economic Models. Whereas in the immediate realm of the civil service, where wages come directly from the government, in public utilities decisions on staff reductions are the responsibility of the chairman and managing directors, who have every right not to implement government recommendations.

Even if the government succeeds in reducing the public sector by 10,000, adding about 0.5% to the unemployment rate, that would not take into account the net growth of departmental payrolls, according to Sheinin. He says in any given year there could be a real increase in the number of employees as a department expands, for example to cater to growing population.

If the newly cabinet-approved economic program is adhered to, Finance Ministry economists predict a rise in overall unemployment next year from 6% to 6.5%. The forecast is for it to drop back to 6.1% before the end of the century.

Ravitz: Knesset will alter budget cuts UTJ candidate elected chairman of Finance Committee

EVELYN GORDON



MK Avraham Ravitz.

THE government's new economic program is unlikely to make it through the Knesset Finance Committee without changes, newly elected committee chairman Avraham Ravitz (UTJ) said in an interview yesterday.

"I have no doubt that the committee will make comments and suggestions," he said. "And I have no doubt that as a result of the committee's activity, even if the principle of a budget cut is accepted, in the end there will be a number of changes in the form of the cuts, in the places from which the cuts are made, and maybe even in the size of the cuts."

However, Ravitz declined to say whether there were specific changes he wanted to see made, saying it would be improper for him to do so until Finance Minister Dan Meridor has presented the plan to the committee. Meridor is slated to do so this morning.

Ravitz was elected committee chairman yesterday by a vote of 14-0, since his appointment had in

practice already been decided as part of the coalition negotiations. The third-term MK has served one previous stint on the Finance Committee, from 1988-90, followed by two years as deputy housing minister and then four years on the Law Committee. Prior to entering the Knesset, he held a variety of posts in education, and also owned a construction firm for about 20 years.

Ravitz said he hopes to be able to accomplish most of the com-

mittee's work by consensus. The economic platforms of the two major parties are not that different, he said, so this should be possible.

"I don't see, especially with respect to the two major parties, that one is capitalist and one is socialist," he said. "And I can't point to either one of these two parties as showing more concern for the poor than its fellow... The basic outlook of both parties, when they sit in the government, is that each tries to act according to the modern understanding of the rules of economics."

Regarding privatization, Ravitz said yesterday that while he agrees the government should not be supporting failing enterprises, neither can it just sell off firms with no regard for the fate of the workers.

"One cannot perform experiments on human beings," he said. "Therefore, I think we should not take drastic measures. For example, I am in favor of privatization, but I think that before we privatize, we need to see what will become of the employees."

Lehman Bros: Major Israeli banks ready to be sold

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

ISRAEL'S major banks are on the right track and should be ready to shrug off state ownership shortly, according to a report on the local banking sector prepared by American investment bank Lehman Brothers.

The report, written in June, recommends that investors focus on Bank Leumi and Bank Hapoalim, and cautions that some banks continue to encounter such problems as poor asset quality, loan monitoring and capital structure.

On the whole the report says the banking sector is fairly valued, with the exception of Bank Leumi, which has achieved poor returns over the past few years, largely due to losses of overseas units.

According to Lehman's analysts, Bank Leumi has solved most of its balance-sheet problems and currently has better asset quality indicators than its major rival, Hapoalim. The analysts rate the stock 2-Outperform, which implies the stock is expected to outperform the market by 5-15 percentage points over the next 12 months.

The analysts said: "It [Bank Leumi] is focused on the more interesting parts of the market, and looks to us capable of delivering returns at least as good as those of Hapoalim, but for rather less risk. The market price of the bank currently seems to reflect the view that Leumi

is either as risky as Hapoalim or will not succeed in matching the larger bank's returns. We believe this is wrong, and Leumi appears to us the most appealing candidate for rerating the industry."

The analysts said Hapoalim has a poor asset quality, which makes the stock risky. But, according to Lehman, performance is unlikely to diverge sharply from that of the market as a whole. Lehman gives the stock a 3-Neutral rating, which means that the stock is expected to perform in line with the market, plus or minus five percentage points.

Commenting on Israel Discount Bank, Lehman said the bank has a good track record, but its exposure to construction is a concern. At its current prices, the analysts believe the stock is fairly valued. Lehman rates the stock 3-Neutral.

According to Lehman the most impressive track record in the industry belongs to First International Bank, mainly because of its relatively low costs and strong balance sheet. The analysts emphasized that the bank's recent growth has been at the expense of profitability, adding that the stock is fairly valued and likely to disappoint investors. The analysts rate the stock 3-Neutral.

Manufacturers report shows worst quarter in four years

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE local industrial market suffered a slowdown in sales in the April-June period, its worst quarter in the last four years, the Manufacturers Association said yesterday, adding that factories also registered a standstill in industrial productivity and exports.

A survey of 180 companies in the industrial sector indicated a slowdown in sales during the last three months, with 41 percent of

the companies reporting a drop in sales, compared with 35% in a similar survey conducted in April and 10% in January. Only 25% of the companies reported increased sales to the local market, compared with 34% in the April survey.

The association said companies also reported a drop in local market orders, with 44% of the com-

panies reporting a decrease, compared with 22% that reported a growth in orders. In the April survey, 35% of the companies reported a drop in orders and a similar number registered a growth.

Of those surveyed 31% expect a continued slowdown in local market sales in the July-September period, while a similar number expect an improvement.

Daimler: Yeltsin win good for business

SALZBURG, Austria (Reuters) -

Daimler-Benz AG management board member Klaus Mangold said yesterday that Russian President Boris Yeltsin's election victory is good for business and has made Russia more predictable.

Mangold, who is also chief executive of Daimler's financial services unit Daimler-Benz Interservices AG, said he has the impression Russia is now determined to improve conditions for foreign investors.

"I think the wait-and-see attitude will disappear, because Russia has become more predictable," Mangold told Reuters in an interview.

Asked if he expects the election outcome to result in a jump in investment, Mangold said: "I don't know if one can speak of a jump in investment, but I think things will improve and that's the most important message."

Mangold, who was in town to co-

chair a conference on central and eastern Europe, said he had spoken to Russian Economics Minister Yevgeny Yasin and was confident of his commitment to make life easier for foreign companies.

"After speaking to Mr. Yasin I had the impression he is determined to attract foreign investors and improve conditions such as speeding up bureaucratic procedures," Mangold said.

Mangold said Daimler, Germany's largest company, would have sales of one billion marks in central and eastern Europe this year, with more than 80 projects underway.

He said Daimler's business outlook is "very positive" for Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic, while Russia is developing more slowly because of its lower purchasing power.

"We could do more if the financing was easier," Mangold said.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Pie Works comes here: The South African baked-goods store chain Pie Works has set up shop here, with a plant in Netanya and an outlet in Ra'anana. The company, which intends to soon open stores in four more towns, will sell kosher products. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Outside auditor to check Grapes of Wrath claims: The Income Tax Commission is recruiting 30 external auditors to deal with claims for losses incurred during the Grapes of Wrath Operation in April.

So far 3,000 claims have been registered by people whose businesses suffered during the military operation in Lebanon. The commission has already paid out NIS 83 million. The auditors will be expected to complete each investigation within 25 working hours, being paid at an hourly rate of NIS 106. *David Harris*

Price of polyethylene sheeting up: Farmers will have to pay 8 percent to 10% more for polyethylene sheeting beginning next month. The two main plastic sheeting manufacturers, Kibbutz Ginegar and Kibbutz Barkai, said yesterday the increase is due to a rise in the price of the raw material, which they say has gone up by 14%. *David Harris*

IDB increases stake in Clal

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE IDB Group has purchased an additional package of Clal Israel shares for a total of NIS 12 million, in an off-floor transaction at the start of the week.

The acquisition is in the framework of the IDB Group's intention to gain control of Clal Israel after its largest party of interest, Bank Hapoalim, sells a significant part of its shares in it in accordance with new legislation aimed at

reducing the banks' non-financial holdings.

The acquired shares represent about 0.5% of Clal's share capital, increasing IDB's holdings in Clal, through IDB Development and Discount Investments, to 43%. At this stage, it is not clear who sold the shares.

Last week IDB Development purchased 1.3% of Clal Israel share capital for a total of NIS 30m.

Tel Aviv area's proportion of population shrinks

JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

MORE than 44 percent of the population resides in the greater Tel Aviv area, a drop in the region's national proportional representation since the last survey in the early 1980s, according to the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Tel Aviv has grown by one million people since the 1983 survey, however, in that year 47% of the country's population lived in Tel Aviv. In 1961, Tel Aviv residents comprised 51% of Israel's population.

Within the city of Tel Aviv the population has dropped from 21% of the national total in 1983 to 14% in 1995, and the percentage of surrounding neighborhoods has increased from 15% to close to 27%.

Similar changes occurred in Haifa, where the overall city population has doubled since

1983 to 400,000, while most residents are now concentrated in the outlying suburbs rather than in the city center. Today, 33% of Haifa's residents live in the city center, a 25% decrease from 1983.

The average number of people per household has also decreased in the Tel Aviv metropolitan area. In 1972, the average number of people per house in the region was 3.5 and 3.0 in central Tel Aviv. In 1995, the number had decreased to 3.1 in the Dan Region and 2.3 in the heart of the city.

In Haifa, the number of people per household in the city's metropolitan area has remained steady at 3.2, however in the city center the number has steadily declined from 3.1 in 1972 to 2.7 in 1995.

Provident funds' yields negative in June

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE commercial banks' provident funds made negative real yields of about 0.90 -1.7 in June, mainly because of the rise in the consumer price index and the anemic state of the stock market.

Bank Hapoalim said the real returns were hindered by April's relatively high CPI of 1.7%. The funds' performance was also hindered by the share market and the mixed trend on the index-linked bond market. In the reported period, most of the funds achieved positive nominal yields.

Among the large funds, Bank Hapoalim's Gadish fund, the largest fund in the country, achieved a real nega-

tive yield of 1.2% last month and a similar accumulated negative yield for the first six months of the year. The fund manages assets of NIS 13.15 billion.

Bank Discount's Tamar fund achieved a negative real yield of 0.92% in June and an accumulated negative real yield of 1.94% since the start of the year. The fund, the second largest in the country, manages assets of NIS 10.75b.

Bank Leumi's Otzma fund, which manages assets of about NIS 10b., achieved a negative real yield of 0.98% last month. In the first half of the year the fund achieved a negative real yield of 0.97%.



Traders on the London International Futures Exchange react to sharp falls in stock values on the Asian financial markets yesterday. The falls in Asia had been prompted by declines on Wall Street, which was reacting to strong employment data, raising fears that the Federal Reserve may increase interest rates. (Reuters)

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At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the above Company on 27/7/96 it was resolved as follows:
(1) To declare dividends additional (amount) 20% of the shares held by you in the Company if payment for said shares is not received by 28/7/96.
(2) To discontinue payment of an additional (amount) 20% of the value of all shares issued to you and for which payment has not yet been made and payment to be executed by 28/7/96.
Steven Libson
Chairman of the Board

Daimler: Yeltsin win good for business

SALZBURG, Austria (Reuters) - Daimler-Benz AG management board member Klaus Mangold said yesterday that Russian President Boris Yeltsin's election victory is good for business and has made Russia more predictable. Mangold, who is also chief executive of Daimler's financial services unit Daimler-Benz Interservices AG, said he has the impression Russia is now determined to improve conditions for foreign investors. "I think the wait-and-see attitude will disappear, because Russia has become more predictable," Mangold told Reuters in an interview. Asked if he expects the election outcome to result in a jump in investment, Mangold said: "I don't know if one can speak of a jump in investment, but I think things will improve and that's the most important message." Mangold, who was in town to co-

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French franc	4.8070	4.8982	4.82	5.06	4.9451
Japanese yen (100)	0.6193	0.6202	0.59	0.63	0.6153
Dutch guilder	2.8487	2.8927	2.78	2.94	2.8704
Swedish krona	1.8407	1.8704	1.80	1.90	1.8557
Norwegian krone	2.4988	2.5402	2.45	2.58	2.4754
Danish krone	0.4713	0.4790	0.46	0.48	0.4675
Canadian dollar	0.4884	0.4912	0.47	0.50	0.4754
Australian dollar	0.8338	0.8445	0.82	0.86	0.8304
S. African rand	0.6780	0.6870	0.66	0.70	0.6819
Canadian dollar	2.3053	2.3425	2.28	2.38	2.3228
Australian dollar	2.2062	2.2467	2.18	2.28	2.2228
S. African rand	0.7274	0.7382	0.68	0.74	0.7333
Belgian franc (10)	1.0025	1.0187	0.98	1.04	1.0114
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9385	2.9809	2.88	3.03	2.9507
Indian lira (1000)	2.0280	2.0882	2.02	2.12	2.0588
Jordanian dinar	4.3900	4.5800	4.38	4.69	4.4884
Egyptian pound	0.9000	0.9800	0.80	0.98	1.0090
ECU	3.9184	3.9798	—	—	3.9451
Irish punt	5.0245	5.1158	4.94	5.19	5.0737
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4531	2.4927	2.41	2.53	2.4737

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Handwritten signature or stamp.

Market remains unchanged

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

FELICE MARANZ



Two-Sided Index Maof Index

STOCK indexes were little changed yesterday after three days of losses amid doubts the government's plan to reduce spending would bring down interest rates.

The Maof Index fell 0.09 percent to 204.05 and the Two-Sided Index fell 0.12% to 192.10. Of 989 shares trading across the exchange, more than twice as many shares fell as rose.

The cabinet approved NIS 4.9 billion worth of reductions in the 1997 budget and NIS 350 million worth of spending cuts for 1996 late Sunday night.

"In the long term, the budget cuts are good, but the market isn't going to rally in the short term because of them," said David Rosenberg, head of research at Herzliya investment firm Pacific Mediterranean. "The budget cuts aren't going to cause rates to come down."

The Bank of Israel last raised the rate at which it lends to banks 1.5 percentage points to 17% on June 27. Some NIS 63.6m. worth of shares changed hands, NIS 1.4m.

Wall Street gyrations leave Europe nervous

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - European share markets wobbled nervously yesterday as fears that US interest rates may rise returned to haunt financial markets and Wall Street tried to decide which way to go.

European markets, riveted by Wall Street after the Dow Industrials Average plunged nearly 115 points on Friday following strong jobs figures, ended in negative territory.

But the performance of US stocks left investors groping for a clear sign of where the market was going. By the time European markets closed, the Dow was up about four points, having gyrated above and below its opening level.

LONDON alone of the major European markets bounced back from early losses to end almost unchanged on the day.

The dollar, seen as the beneficiary of any tightening of US rates, hit a 30-month high of 111.20 yen in Asia, but profiting in Europe quickly took it back below 111.

Speculation continued to simmer that the US Federal Reserve might raise interest rates as early as this week after Friday's jobs data rekindled worries about inflation.

"There is quite a bit of trepidation in the market as to the precise timing of a US interest rate hike," said Stuart Thomson, chief economist at Nikko Europe. "There hasn't been much volume and there's no interest to go either way."

Many analysts expect the central bank to wait until its policy-making committee meets in August, but there was some speculation that Fed chairman Alan Greenspan might act before July 18 when he is due to give testimony to the Senate.

By 1535 GMT, the dollar was trading at 110.82 yen and 1.5269 marks against Friday's European level of 110.88 yen and 1.5315 marks.

German government bonds ended steady at around Friday's levels with dealers optimistic that the market might remain decoupled from the US market for the time being.

LONDON equity traders were surprised by the market's resilience but said investors remained wary.

"I think there are still a lot of people on the sidelines. People don't have a lot of faith in what's going on right now. I think they need to see a few days of stability on Wall Street before getting back in," said one trader.

German shares suffered heavy falls in early trade and the 30-share DAX index closed floor trade with a 32 point loss at 2,551.04.

But investors later shrugged off Wall Street's volatility and the IBIS DAX index recouped much of its losses to end 7.28 points down at 2,561.51.

"We're low but it's all pretty relaxed. But tonight will be critical as we wait to see whether the US continues lower. Perhaps the German market is taking this a little too coolly," one Munich trader said.

French shares ended a nervous day with steep losses but edged back from the day's lows after it appeared that New York had avoided a second bloodbath.

Traders said the relative calm in New York helped French shares stage a partial recovery.

Dow extends losses

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks extended their sharp losses into a second straight session yesterday as investors set their sights on the possibility that the Federal Reserve may raise interest rates to slow a fast-growing economy.

Based on early and unofficial data, the Dow Jones Industrial average ended down 37.31 points, or 0.67 percent, at 5,550.83 after tumbling 115 points Friday on surprisingly robust jobs data.

In the broader market, declining issues swamped advances 16-7 on moderate volume of 367 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

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TEL AVIV STOCKS

Table of Tel Aviv stocks with columns for Multi-sided trading and Two-sided trading, listing various companies and their prices.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Table of international stock prices for various countries including New York, London, Paris, Frankfurt, and others.

Key Representative Rates

Table showing exchange rates for US dollar, Sterling, and Mark against NIS.

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

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Other stock market indexes

Table showing other stock market indexes like FTSE 100, Nikkei 225, etc.

Israeli stocks in NY

Table showing Israeli stocks listed in NY like NIS/AMX, Am & Pop, etc.

LIBOR RATES

Table showing LIBOR rates for various terms and currencies.

Foreign financial data courtesy of Comstock Trading Ltd.

Table showing foreign financial data like Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds, etc.

US Commodities

Table showing US commodity prices for various goods.

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Table showing spot market metals prices like Gold, Silver, etc.

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Table showing New York metal futures prices.

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Table showing London metal futures prices.

Currency exchange rates

Table showing currency exchange rates for various countries.

MARK STERLING YEN SFY FFF

Table showing exchange rates for Mark, Sterling, Yen, SFY, FFF.

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MARK STERLING YEN SFY FFF

Table showing exchange rates for Mark, Sterling, Yen, SFY, FFF.

Hingis is youngest Wimbledon champ; Sukova in double shine

WEV Olive ever Chan extra earn behir Reppu Bic Gem Berg the C utes Gc hand behi hant Ju a lat in ti the 1 from Ger um; B sial fou Ma equ hea ente T knu wo th mc the are se; th in pl: gr

LONDON (AP) — Martina Hingis became the youngest ever Wimbledon champion yesterday when, at the age of 15 years and 282 days, she and Helena Sukova downed Edith McGrath and Larusson 5-7, 7-5, 6-1.

The final was held over from Sunday as Wimbledon went into an extra, 14th day because of frequent weather interruptions. Ironically there were no rain delays on the extra day after the previous five all were interrupted.

Hingis, from Switzerland, and Sukova, from the Czech Republic, were 5-2 down in the second set but turned the match around to lead 4-1 overnight.

The resumption of the final was held up 15 minutes to allow hundreds of late arrivals to take their Centre Court seats, and the action then lasted only three minutes.

Sukova held her serve to 15 and she and Hingis gained their first match points at 15-40 with the American, McGrath, serving.

Sukova squandered the first with a forehand long. But Hingis clinched their victory with a backhand down the line at Nieland's feet and the Latvian's backhand failed to get it back over the net.

"It's great to win at Wimbledon. For every tennis player it's a big goal to win Wimbledon, even the doubles," said Hingis, who is three days younger than the previous youngest, Lottie Dod, the singles titlist in 1887.



DOUBLE TROUBLE — Helena Sukova (l) and Martina Hingis lift doubles trophy. Sukova, with brother Cyril Suk, also won the mixed doubles.

"Hopefully one day I'll do it in the singles, too."

Sukova and Nieland met again five hours later after both had battled through two more rounds of mixed doubles matches to reach the final.

The Czech triumphed again, Sukova and her brother, Cyril

Suk, triumphing 1-6, 6-3, 6-2 over Nieland and Australia's Mark Woodforde.

Despite losing the opening game, Woodforde and Nieland won the first set in 18 minutes with six in a row. But Sukova and her brother broke twice in the second to tie the match up at one set

all and won four games in a row to lead 5-1 in the third.

Woodforde and Nieland broke back but the Czechs won the tide when Suk, a mixed doubles runner up last season, clinched championship point with a winning volley and then Nieland netted a backhand.

Snow shortens Tour route; Riis takes overall lead

SESTRIERE, Italy (AP) — Bjarne Riis of Denmark won the shortened ninth stage of the Tour de France yesterday and took the overall lead after summer snow forced race organizers to eliminate two mountain climbs.

Riis took the leader's yellow jersey from Russian Yevgeny Berzin, who faltered after his strong weekend showing.

Riis made a long solo breakaway and won by about 24 seconds over Frenchman Luc Leblanc.

The ninth leg of the race was scheduled to start from Val d'Isere and finish in Sestriere in Italy. After bypassing two snowy mountain passes, the leg went about 28 miles, compared to the original 117.5 miles.

Initially, the organizers were to skip the 9,141-foot Col de l'Isere, the highest point on this year's Tour.

Then high winds and four inches of snow made the organizers cancel a second climb on the 8,731-foot, Col de Galbier.

Unseasonably rainy and cold weather has hampered the 21-stage Tour since the start. So the change was a break for five-time defending champion Miguel Indurain, who doesn't like racing in cold weather.

Indurain finished fifth in yesterday's stage, 28 seconds behind Riis. Berzin wound up 14th for the day, 1:23 behind Riis.



CHUGGING — Bjarne Riis takes overall lead on Tour's 9th stage.

Overall, Berzin is second, 40 seconds behind the leader. Indurain is eighth, 4:38 back. Indurain had to come back after losing time over the weekend.

In Saturday's seventh stage, Indurain faltered on the final

ascent of a three-climb pass, losing more than 4 minutes to rivals.

Indurain, who turns 32 years old on July 16, is attempting to become the first man to win a record six tours.

Bnei Yehuda's coach quits after a month

ORI LEWIS

AFTER appointing a new coach just over a month ago, Bnei Yehuda now finds itself without a coach to lead the soccer club in preparation for the new season, following the resignation of Boaz Sulami yesterday.

Sulami quit suddenly after promises by the club to buy new players had, according to Sulami, not been fulfilled.

The coach was hoping for a strong side with which the club could challenge for a leading spot in the National League, but after Bnei Yehuda failed to acquire the talent which Sulami had hoped he could work with, he decided to tender his resignation to the club's management last night.

Selig: Baseball will hire commissioner after pact, 'and it won't be me!'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Baseball owners will hire a new top man after a labor agreement is reached, acting commissioner Bud Selig said Sunday, reiterating that he is not a candidate.

"It's not going to be me, and I have said that right from the beginning," Selig said. "I have never deviated since September of 1992."

Baseball has been without a commissioner since Fay Vincent resigned under pressure on September 7, 1992 and without a collective bargaining agreement since December 31, 1993.

Selig said that baseball eventually will expand to 32 teams, but that it may not happen by the target year of 2000. He also said that although he is reluctant to have teams change cities, he wouldn't rule out a possible move by the Houston Astros to northern Virginia.

"(Drayton) McLane has never officially asked us for anything and really hasn't discussed it for a long time," he said of the Astros' owner. "I wouldn't want to say there is no chance, but at this point, he has made no formal or informal request to move his club."

The last baseball team to move was the Washington Senators who became the Texas

County Championship Results

LONDON, July 8 (Reuters) — Results on the final day of four-day English county championship cricket matches yesterday.

At Leicester: Leicestershire beat Essex by an innings and 44 runs. Essex 163 and 247 (G.Gooch 72; D.Milnes 6-54). Leicestershire 454-9 declared (V.Wells 197; D.Milnes 103). At Bristol: Match drawn. Glamorgan, 509-3 declared (M.Maynard 145 not out, S.James 118, H.Morris 108, A.Cotney 101 not out). Gloucestershire 181 (G.Boucher 7-77) and 224-8 (J.Canniff 82; R.Croft 4-39).

At Old Trafford: Match drawn. Lancashire 392 and 256-7 declared (G.Lloyd 72, N.Fairbrother 53; V.Solanki 5-140). Worcestershire 350-3 declared and 171-4 (T.Moody 67, V.Solanki 62).

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire beat Nottinghamshire by 85 runs. Warwickshire 350-8 declared and 158-2 declared (M.Burns 65, not out). Nottinghamshire 212-4 declared and 211 (K.Evans 60, P.Pollard 57; A.Giles 5-70).

At Maidstone: Kent beat Durham by 83 runs. Kent 363 and 244 (C.Hooper 105, T.Ward 60; S.Brown 4-58). Durham 269 and 253 (S.Campbell 83).

At The Oval: Surrey beat Middlesex by 7 wickets. Middlesex 232 and 194 (M.Gatting 53). Surrey 366 and 61-3.

County	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Kent	9	5	0	4	24	29	145			
Yorkshire	9	5	2	2	28	26	140			
Leicestershire	8	4	1	3	29	27	129			
Surrey	9	3	1	5	29	32	124			
Warwickshire	9	4	3	2	21	29	120			
Derbyshire	8	3	2	3	28	27	110			
Sussex	8	4	2	2	15	23	108			
Middlesex	9	3	4	2	17	31	102			
Essex	8	2	2	4	26	23	83			
Somerset	8	2	3	3	15	30	88			
Hampshire	7	2	2	3	21	23	85			
Glamorgan	8	2	4	2	23	19	80			
Lancashire	8	1	1	8	24	21	79			
Nottinghamshire	8	1	2	5	22	24	77			
Worcestershire	8	1	3	4	17	28	73			
Northants	8	1	4	3	19	24	68			
Gloucestershire	8	1	2	5	9	26	66			
Durham	10	0	6	4	16	38	64			

Taylor warns of foreign stars' influx

LONDON (Reuters) — English soccer players' chief Gordon Taylor voiced concern about the growing influx of foreign players in the Premier League.

England has become attractive to top overseas players, with television ploughing millions of pounds into soccer.

Middlesbrough signed striker Fabrizio Ravanello from Juventus for £7 million and fellow Italians Gianluca Vialli and Roberto Di Matteo have joined Chelsea.

West Ham has paid a club record £2.4m for Romanian striker Florin Raducioiu, who will link up with another ex-AC Milan player, Portugal's Paulo Futre.

Taylor, chief executive of the English Players' Football Association, says the game's leaders should follow the example of the Netherlands to ensure the development of young players.

"Their television deal has a ruling which says that 25 percent of that money should be used in coaching and development. That is what I would like to see here," Taylor said.

"The pattern now is to go for a ready-made international rather than a rough diamond. Clubs want ready-made success. Most are not prepared to be patient."

"The North East used to be a regular breeding ground with people like Alan Shearer, Paul Gascoigne, Chris Waddle and Peter Beardsley coming through.

"Now Newcastle and Middlesbrough are turning instead to seasoned internationals. That might be good from a spectator's point of view but we need to strike a balance and help the young players."

"West Ham got to the youth cup final last season. Yet how many of that team is going to break through, if they are going to sign so many players from abroad?"

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Swans continue to impress with win over Geelong

MELBOURNE (AP) — The Sydney Swans confirmed their status as an Australian Rules football power Sunday by thrashing Geelong by 51 points in front of a record home crowd.

The Australian Football League stars in the traditional rugby league hotbed of Sydney drew 44,047 to the Sydney Cricket Ground, 4,000 more than the previous best since the Swans moved north from Victoria state in 1982.

Other fans went next door to watch the 18.17 (125) to 11.8 (74) win on a big screen at the Sydney Football Stadium because there was no room.

The win lifts Sydney to second place on the ladder behind North Melbourne. Tony Lockett kicked six goals for Sydney to take his total for the year to 81.

In other matches Sunday, St. Kilda beat Fremantle 15.10 (100) to 11.11 (77) and forward David Neitz booted eight goals as Melbourne defeated Footscray 14.10 (94) to 10.7 (67).

On Saturday, Adelaide broke a five-match losing streak by beating the Brisbane Bears 15.12 (102) to 14.10 (94). Hawthorn moved to within striking distance of a top eight berth and inflicted Collingwood's eighth straight loss with a 33-point victory, 17.12 (114) to 11.15 (81).

The West Coast Eagles posted their ninth successive victory. In wet and slippery conditions the Eagles won 10.8 (68) to 7.9 (51) over Richmond after breaking open the game with five goals in the second quarter.

There were 10 goalscorers for Essendon in its 17.16 (118) to 7.10 (52) win over Fitzroy.

On Friday, North Melbourne proved its premiership credentials with a 55-point win over reigning champion Carlton. The match between the first- and second-placed teams on the ladder turned into a non-contest with North moving a game clear at the top, thrashing Carlton 21.18 (144) to 13.11 (89).

Collated weekend results in Australian Rules football:

St. Kilda 15.10 (100) def. Fremantle 11.11 (77)

Melbourne 14.10 (94) def. Footscray 10.7 (67)

Sydney Swans 18.17 (125) def. Geelong 11.8 (74)

Adelaide 15.12 (102) def. Brisbane Bears 14.10 (94)

Hawthorn 17.12 (114) def. Collingwood 11.15 (81)

Essendon 17.16 (118) def. Fitzroy 7.10 (52)

West Coast Eagles 10.8 (68) def. Richmond 7.9 (51)

North Melbourne 21.18 (144) def. Carlton 13.11 (89)

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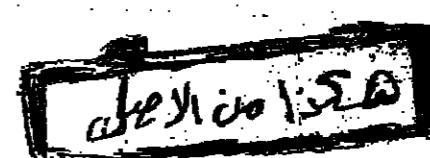
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THE JERUSALEM POST

Joseph Hoffman, Sports Editor



ACRI: Israel respects rights of Israelis, but not of Palestinians

EVELYN GORDON

ISRAEL basically respects the human rights of its own citizens, but violates the rights of residents of the territories "often and widely," the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) said yesterday in its first comprehensive report on human rights in Israel.

"Infringements of human rights in Israel are mainly of a local and sporadic nature, rather than habitual or endemic," the association said in a summary of the report. "[But] for residents of [the territories], human rights are not something that can be taken for granted; on the contrary, their rights are violated on a regular and extensive basis."

The most serious violation, the report said, is the use of torture in General Security Service interrogations.

"Despite declarations by senior officials, there has been no real change in GSS interrogation methods," it said. "While judicial review of GSS interrogations has intensified in recent years, it remains inadequate. The courts have so far refrained from taking a clear stand against torture. As long as the interrogations are Palestinian, it is easy to enlist public support for this position."

The GSS interrogation of several right-wing Jews under the Rabin government, as well as the 1995 death of Abed Harizat during a GSS interrogation, have helped raise public awareness of this issue, the report said.

"The emerging public debate is a positive development, given the conspiracy of silence which surrounded this subject in Israel in the past," it added.

The second major problem in the territories is collective punishment such as closures, the report said.

noting that the closure is especially hard on the ill.

"The closure has led to the death of several people, including babies, who were prevented from reaching hospitals," it said.

The peace process has led to an improvement in the situation. For instance, the report said, the number of Palestinian administrative detainees has dropped from about 2,500 in August 1988 to 338 in April 1996. According to unofficial Justice Ministry figures, it added, only about 150 Palestinians are now arrested each month, compared to around 20,000 a month at the start of the Intifada. However, it said, detainees are still "often held in very poor conditions" and have "almost no chance of receiving legal representation from an attorney of their choice."

Arrests and detentions are also a problem within Israel, the report said, though the situation is improving. For instance, a recent law reduced the amount of time someone can be held without seeing a judge from 48 to 24 hours, and money has been spent to improve lock-ups. However, the report said, "the extent of police arrests in Israel is significantly greater than in other countries, and many of the arrests are unjustified. At least half of all people arrested are eventually released without charges being pressed."

Conditions in lock-ups remain "appalling, even sub-human," it continued, and the problem of police violence remains "acute." Freedom of expression also became a major issue following the murder of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, the report said, citing examples

such as the indictment of the Zo Artzenu organization for sedition, the conviction of Rabbi Ido Elba for incitement to racism on account of a halachic article he wrote, the investigation of two teenagers who made a poster of Rabin in an SS uniform, and the prosecution of several people who praised the murder.

Association legal adviser Neta Ziv, who introduced the report at a Jerusalem press conference, said one major problem is the religious monopoly on marriages and divorces, and another is the issue of equality in general.

"Israel is the only country in the Western world which does not have a law guaranteeing equality in all areas," she said.

Another is the institutional discrimination faced by Israeli Arabs. This is especially true in the field of housing, she said.

"Since the founding of the state, not a single Arab village has been set up," she said, adding that the government mortgages given Arab couples are only about one-third the size of those given Jewish couples.

However, she continued, progress is being made in this area. The previous government decreased the gap between the budgets given Jewish and Arab towns, and also made an effort to increase the number of Arabs in the Civil Service.

There are a number of other areas in which significant progress had been made in recent years, Ziv said, ranging from the passage of a law preventing employment discrimination to the enactment of affirmative action for women on government boards.

"I can't think of any areas in which there has been deterioration," she added.



This inscription reading 'Herod, King of the Jews,' was found for the first time on this fragment of a wine amphora discovered in excavations at Masada.

Herodian wine jug found on Masada

ARCHAEOLOGISTS sifting through a 2,000-year-old garbage dump at Masada said yesterday they have unearthed the remains of a clay wine jug inscribed with the name of King Herod.

The Latin inscription says either "Herod, King of Judea" or "Herod, King of the Jews," said archaeologist Ehud Netzer of the Hebrew University.

Netzer said it was the first time the full title of Herod, who reigned from 37 BCE until his death in 4 BCE, had been found in an inscription.

The wine jug, which dates from about 19 BCE, was found in an ancient garbage dump near the synagogue at Masada, Netzer said.

"Sometimes the most interesting finds come from

the garbage dump," he said. The large, cone-shaped, two-handled jug, which held about 80 liters of wine, was shipped to Masada from Italy, Netzer said.

Archaeologists also discovered food remains from Masada dwellers in Herod's time, including nuts, eggshells, dates and olive pits, as well as pieces of cloth and basket ware.

Archaeologists also found two caves near the Masada synagogue - one used as a storage area and the other which apparently served first as a storage area and later as a garbage dump. The dry air at Masada preserved the organic material at the dump over the past 2,000 years. (AP)

WEATHER

Hera	23-32
Tiberias	24-33
Abba	23-34
Samarra	20-32
Tel Aviv	24-31
Jerusalem	20-32
Beer Sheva	22-37
Dead Sea	24-41
Ein	25-32

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Hotter than usual inland. Humid along the coast.

AROUND THE WORLD

Location	Low	High	Cloud
Amsterdam	12	18	cloudy
Buenos Aires	12	18	cloudy
Chicago	14	22	cloudy
London	12	18	cloudy
Los Angeles	15	22	cloudy
Madrid	18	25	cloudy
Manila	24	30	cloudy
Paris	12	18	cloudy
Rome	18	25	cloudy
Stockholm	12	18	cloudy
Tokyo	18	25	cloudy
Yokohama	18	25	cloudy

Golan leaders meet with Netanyahu

DAVID RUDGE

GOLAN Heights leaders met with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem yesterday. The meeting, just hours before Netanyahu left for the US, was seen as conveying a significant message regarding the status of the Golan.

"I think the meeting and the timing sent a message that he sees the Golan as an integral part of the state," said Katzrin Local Council chairman Sammy Bar-Lev.

"The fact that we were received without fuss and given a warm welcome and encouragement for continued development of the Golan, just before he was due to leave for the US, speaks for itself."

Bar-Lev, Golan Regional Council head Yehuda Wolman, Golan Residents Committee chair-

man Moshe Gorali, and committee activist Eli Malka thanked Netanyahu for his statements pledging to retain Israeli rule over the Golan.

"We also asked him to instruct all the relevant ministers to invest in developing the Golan, because we want to utilize the next four years strengthen the region as much as possible," said Bar-Lev.

The Golan leaders submitted to Netanyahu the "Golan 2000" development program aimed at increasing the Jewish population of the region by 10,000 by the year 2000. The plan calls for a NIS 660 million government investment over the next four years to expand and improve infrastructure.

"We were very gratified by the response of the prime minister, who was very friendly and encouraging and really does back the continuation of development," said Bar-Lev. "He called in his aides and consulted them on the best way to act and what forum should be established to bring about significant development of the Golan."

"The prime minister, in contrast to his predecessor, is not hesitant or afraid to tell the truth about Syria's use of terror. This indicates a marked change in policy. We were very concerned on the eve of visits to the US by previous prime ministers, but this time we are much more relaxed, although we will continue to keep an eye on the situation."

Peres not invited to parley on Labor leadership contest

MICHAL YUDELMAN

LABOR'S leadership may convene today to discuss the contest for the party's next leader without party chairman Shimon Peres, who was not invited.

The meeting, initiated by MKs Avraham Shohat and Haggai Merom, was initially scheduled for last night. But after it was leaked to the press, leading to objections by MKs and speculation about a possible putsch against Peres, it was put off until today.

Shohat supports MK Ehud Barak for Labor leader, while Merom is considered in MK Haim Ramon's

camp. Barak has urged advancing the leadership contest to the end of the year, but abandoned the issue after Peres suggested holding the primaries in a year. Ramon, on the other hand, said he is not sure whether he'll run at all, unless the party holds open primaries.

Shohat and Merom invited the rest of the first 13 MKs on Labor's list: Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, David Liba'i, Uzi Baran, Nissim Zvili, Efraim Sneh, Yossi Beilin, Ori Orr,

Dalia Itzik, Shevah Weiss, Barak, and Ramon. Peres, who is abroad, was not invited.

Liba'i objected to holding the meeting "behind Peres's back" and said he would not attend, since it could be interpreted as an attempt to remove Peres from the party leadership.

"If the intention is to discuss the situation in the party and its future steps, the meeting should be held together with Peres and not take advantage of the time he is out of the country. I had reason to suspect that the way and time in which the meeting was arranged could be interpreted as though the party leadership is in agreement that it must proceed without Peres," Liba'i said.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the 10 of spades, ace of hearts, king of diamonds, and jack of clubs.

Mordechai: Everything will be done to strengthen SLA

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE security zone and the South Lebanese Army must be kept strong as long as there is no peace agreement with Lebanon, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai yesterday told SLA commander Gen. Antoine Lahad at his Tel Aviv office.

The meeting was also attended by Uri Lubrani, government coordinator on Lebanon, and the commander of the IDF's liaison unit in Lebanon, Brig.-Gen. Eli Amitai.

"Israel's goal is to reach a peace agreement with Lebanon that will ensure security along our northern border and good relations with Lebanon," Mordechai said. "Until then the security zone is very important and everything will be done to strengthen it and the SLA."

Mordechai praised Lahad for the operational successes of the SLA in recent clashes with gunmen in the zone, especially the effort in repelling an attack on an SLA post.

Lahad congratulated Mordechai for his appointment as defense minister. He emphasized the need to strengthen the security zone, saying "Arab countries want to make peace with you only because you are strong."

No Sullivan in Netanyahu file

STEVE LEIBOWITZ

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's US Social Security file includes no references to individuals other than family members, according to information obtained by The Jerusalem Post.

This contradicts stories published in the Tel Aviv weekly Ha'ir, which claimed that Netanyahu's file includes the names of John Jay Sullivan and John Jay Sullivan Jr.

The Jerusalem Post has also located the Sullivans in California. They claim to have never had any connection to Netanyahu, and they have different Social Security numbers. Indications are that the only time Netanyahu and the name Sullivan appear together is on routine credit files resulting from clerical error or possible credit fraud on the part of one or more of the Sullivans.

The story began with an article in Ha'ir on June 21, asserting that Netanyahu's Social Security file, 020-36-4537, is marked "confidential" by the US government. Ha'ir also claimed that the names Benjamin Netanyahu, Benjamin Netanyahu, John Jay Sullivan, and John Jay Sullivan Jr. all appear in Netanyahu's file and hold the same Social Security number. Ha'ir inferred, but provided no evidence, that Netanyahu had for some reason created false identities.

Netanyahu's Social Security file has not been marked "confiden-

tial." "All Social Security files are closed and confidential," an American official who routinely deals with Social Security matters explained.

He added that any attempt to enter such a file without proper authorization is considered a federal offense. But a federal employee did agree to read the Netanyahu file and report his findings to New York private detective Steve Rambam. The results: "The name Benjamin Netanyahu (spelled as indicated) is the sole holder of social Security No. 020-36-4537. There is a reference to Netanyahu's second wife Fleur H. Netanyahu and apparently a cross reference to his brother and sister-in-law Iddo and Daphna Netanyahu. The Sullivans do not appear."

The only document on which the name Sullivan and Netanyahu appear together is on credit rating reports prepared by the Transunion and TRW credit unions.

Rambam, who has appeared as an expert witness at trials involving credit fraud, explains that "the reports in question are either the result of clerical error or deception on Sullivan's part. Forty percent of credit reports include errors."

"In April 1996, the Transunion records were accessed several times within a short period, pre-

sumably by the same person," he said. "While the credit reports do not in themselves prove anything, there are indications that the Sullivan family might have used a bogus Social Security number belonging to Netanyahu when applying for credit."

Earlier this month, Ma'ariv contacted Sullivan by telephone. He denied any link to Netanyahu and said: "I am an American citizen, alive and well, and I have no connection to the Israeli prime minister." According to the report, Sullivan, fearing credit card fraud, refused to disclose his Social Security number.

Following publication of the Ha'ir story, questions were raised in the Knesset alleging that Netanyahu had for some reason been using the name Sullivan as an alias for unknown activities while living in the US.

But John Jay Sullivan and John Jay Sullivan Jr. are real people, living in northern California. The senior Sullivan lives with his wife Juliana, whose name also shows up on the credit union reports. The Sullivans have two registered addresses. They rent a home and live at 204 Lyndhurst Avenue, Belmont, California. They also own a home, which they rent out, at 610 Marlin Court, Redwood City. John Jay Sullivan Jr. is their son.

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